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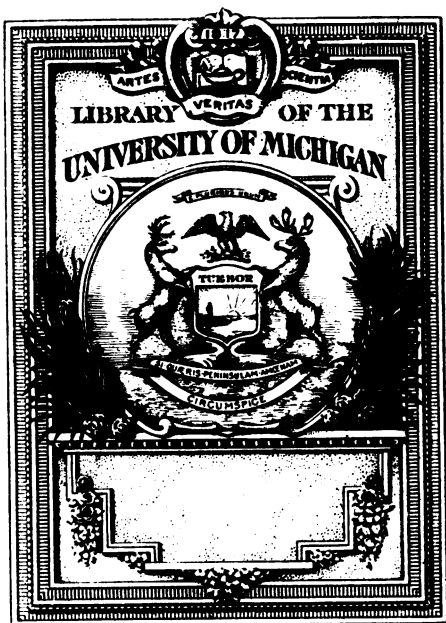
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L^d Gⁿ L^d Gardenstone

L^d Dⁿ Geo Dempster Esq

J^r Aⁿ Jas Anderson Esq

J^r Aⁿ Jon Anderson

13.9

THE BEE,

OR

LITERARY WEEKLY INTELLIGENCER,

CONSISTING OF
ORIGINAL PIECES AND SELECTIONS FROM PERFORMANCES
OF MERIT, FOREIGN AND DOMESTIC :

A WORK CALCULATED TO DISSEMINATE USEFUL KNOWLEDGE
AMONG ALL RANKS OF PEOPLE AT A SMALL EXPENCE,

BY

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VOLUME SEVENTEENTH

APIS MATINÆ MORE MODIQUE. HORACE



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R. Scott sculp.

Henry Lord Cardross.

From an Original painting by Sir Godfrey Kneller, in the possession of Lord Buchan.

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Anderson
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WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 4. 1793.

SKETCH OF THE LIFE OF HENRY LORD

Ld. B.
CARDROSS.

With a portrait.

HENRY ERSKINE lord Cardross was the great grandson of John earl of Mar, lord high treasurer of Scotland, of whom an account has been given in this miscellany *.

He was the son of David lord Cardross, by Anne Hope, daughter of Sir Thomas Hope of Craighall, lord advocate of Scotland.

His father was one of the seven Scottish lords who bravely and honourably protested against the deli-

* Vol. vii. p. 1.

2 *Sketch of the life of lord Cardross.* Sept. 4:
very of king Charles the first to the army of the
English parliament, at Newcastle, in the year 1646;
and he educated his son in the same principle of ho-
nour and fidelity to the laws and personal engage-
ments, without which no character can be respect-
table.

The subject of this short memoir was born at
Cardross in Perthshire, the family seat, antiently
the rural residence of the abbots of Inchmahomoe.
The elementary part of his education was conduct-
ed at Edinburgh; and from thence he was sent to
study at Leyden under the most eminent professors.
Afterwards he travelled for some time on the con-
tinent, but more with a view to acquire useful know-
ledge, than to admire the splendour of courts, or
partake of fashionable amusements.

On his coming of age in the year 1671, he re-
turned home, and soon after married Katherine Stew-
art, daughter of Sir James, and grand daughter of
Sir Lewis Stewart, lord justice general of Scotland.
The same year his father died, and from the politi-
cal complexion of the times, he was forced to take a
part in the opposition to the arbitrary measures of
the Lauderdale administration. On this account
the share he had of the illegal and cruel oppression
of the times, are fully set forth in Wodrow and
Cruikshanks, their narratives of those unhappy dis-
putes; and are unnecessary to be repeated in this
place. It is sufficient to mention that for the bap-
tism of his son (afterwards earl of Buchan,) by a
clergyman of the presbyterian communion, he was
forced to pay a fine of great amount, and for suffer-

1793. *Sketch of the life of lord Cardross.* 3

ing the famous Mr Hugh Mackail and other preachers to officiate in his chapel at Cardross, he was confiscated, and forced to pay another fine of a thousand pounds sterling.

His whole estate of Cardross was wasted, and his house occupied by a garrison for eight years together, during the life time of his father; and now in the year 1679, it was again garrisoned, and himself committed a close prisoner to the castle of Edinburgh, until he should pay a fine of three thousand pounds, immoderately laid beyond his power of present performance, that his person might be secured.

In June of this year the king's forces, on their march to the west, (the day before the duke of Monmouth came to them,) wheeled, and went out of their route, that they might quarter upon lord Cardross's estate of Strathbroke, where they plundered and destroyed the corns and cattle of his tenants, and made as great havock as the time would permit.

After this, lord Cardross finding it impossible for him to live with safety or honour in his own country, compounded for his fines, and engaged with those who settled on Charlestown neck in South Carolina, where he established a plantation. From thence a few years afterwards he and his people were driven by the Spaniards, many of the colonists being killed, and almost all their effects destroyed.

Forced to return again to Europe, he took up his abode at the Hague, with his persecuted coun-

4 *Sketch of the life of lord Cardross.* Sept. 4.
trymen, and obtained a command in the army of
the states general of Holland ; from whence he came
in the year 1688 with William prince of Orange,
his son David Erskine attending him and commanding a company of foot.

Lord Cardross raised a regiment of cavalry for the service of the state, soon after his arrival in England, to the command of which he was appointed; and he acquitted himself bravely and honourably under the command of general Mackay in Scotland, to perfect the good work of establishing the throne of king William on the basis of rational law and parliamentary election.

But lord Cardross's health, which had been impaired by his close imprisonment, and the fatigues of his American plantation, sunk under the effects of his military duties in Scotland, and he died at Edinburgh in the year 1693, having only completed his forty-third year.

The chief intent of this slight notice concerning lord Cardross, is to suggest the reflection that ought to arise from the comparison of times that appear troublesome and hazardous, with those that have been truly dangerous and afflicting in former ages ; and to set forth the example of a virtuous man, who rather than disturb the tranquility of his country, and endanger that of his relations and friends, chose the hard alternative of seeking an asylum on the other side of the Atlantic.

There are times when it is impossible for a wise man to operate with success in reclaiming his countrymen from inveterate prejudices ; and in such times

1793. *on the value and uses of the larch tree:* 3
for a man of a philosophical turn of mind, and of strict and delicate virtue, the simile of Plato ought to be well considered.

“ If one, says he, shall observe a great company run out into the rain every day, and delight to be wet in it; and if he judges that it will be to little purpose for him to go and persuade them to come into their houses and avoid the rain, so that all that can be expected from his going to speak to them, will be that he shall be wet with them; would it not be much better for him to keep within doors, and preserve himself, since he cannot correct the folly of others ?”

ON THE VALUE AND USES OF THE LARCH TREE.

P. A.
If a traveller should come from a strange country, and report that he had there found a tree whose wood was nearly incorruptible; who should say, that under ground it would remain for centuries firm, and at length acquire almost a metallic hardness; that above ground, though exposed to the weather, it could scarcely be said ever to rot: that if cut into plank after being thoroughly dried, it was neither apt to shrink nor warp in any way: that no kind of worm was known to make any impression on it for ages, if made into furniture; and that even the sea worm in tropical regions, so destructive to most other kinds of wood, did not affect it: that it resisted fire, so as scarcely ever to be put into a flame; and only consumed slowly in circumstances that

6 *on the value and uses of the larch tree. Sept. 4.*

were very favourable for combustion : that though light and soft, it was strong and elastic : that it was a tall and stately tree, of remarkably quick growth and elegant appearance : that it thrived on a great diversity of soils, and in a variety of exposures, even in very cold climates : that it bore seeds early, which germinated freely, and was easily propagated : that the verdure of its leaves was very vivid and pleasing : that its blossoms were of a fine purple colour in great abundance early in the spring, so as to make it one of the most beautiful ornamental trees that could any where be found ; would not every one who should read this description pronounce it to be greatly exaggerated, and be satisfied that no one kind of tree could possess such a great number of valuable properties ? Yet such we now know with certainty the *larix* to be ; and that from facts established by undeniable evidence, every one who examines this subject with attention, must admit the whole without hesitation. That a tree possessing these valuable qualities, ought to be cultivated with care, no one will deny ; but in a country where it has not come into general use, and where its qualities are of course not experimentally known, it may be of use, not only to specify a few of the facts which prove that it really does possess the qualities above ascribed to it ; but also to point out some of the many uses to which it may be applied ; in order that by directing the attention of individuals to a subject of so much importance, care may be taken to disperse it as early as possible into all those parts of the country where it would tend most effectually to promote

1793. *on the value and uses of the larch tree.* 7
the improvement of arts, manufactures, or agriculture in any way.

The incorruptibility of this wood has been several times hinted in this miscellany and other performances ; but as the facts which prove this cannot be too generally known, there will be little harm in recapitulating some of these, and adding some others less generally known.

Vitruvius mentions this wood as the best that had ever been known for rafters, and other parts of the wood work in buildings that required great strength ; and attributes the perishable nature of modern buildings in his time, in a great measure to the want of it in the neighbourhood of Rome. The houses of Venice are well known to be built upon piles of larch wood, which have remained sound for many hundred years, and are now found to be so hard as to resist an edged tool almost like a petrification. Many of the pictures of Raphael Urban are painted upon boards of larch wood, which are still perfectly entire. It is about three hundred years since he died. Had the wood either shrunk or warped during that time, it is evident the paintings must have been destroyed ; as must also have been the case had it been eaten by worms.

These are a few facts that have been long known in Europe. The following have been more lately observed, and are less generally known. " I have in my garden, says M. le president de la Tour d'AIGUES, in the year 1787, some rails, part of which are oak, and part of them larch wood. The rails were made in the year 1743, and only once painted. The oak has yielded

8 *on the value and uses of the larch tree. Sept. 4.*
to time, but the larch is still sound. They employ
this wood at present in *Provence*, for making casks.
The chesnut of the *Cevennes* had supplied the place
of the oak, and the larch now successfully supplies
that of the chesnut. The fineness of the grain re-
tains perfectly the spirit of the liquor, and does not
alter its quality. It has been employed for that use
for time immemorial in the higher *Dauphiné*, from
Sisteron even to *Briançon*: I have in my castle of
Tour d'Aigues, beams of twenty inches square,
which are sound, though upwards of two hundred
years old; but trees of this size are now only to be
found in places whence they cannot be transported.
There are in some parts of *Dauphiné*, and in the for-
rest of *Baye* in *Provence*, larch trees which two men
could not grasp, and more than twelve toises, (about
seventy-five feet) in height." *Mem. R. Soc. Agri.*
Paris, 1787.

It is not in France alone that this peculiarity has
been observed. Dr Pallas, in the extensive travels
he made throughout the Russian dominions, took no-
tice of a kind of tumuli which were frequent in
Kamtchatka, which were said to be the burying
places of their ancestors, of immemorial antiquity.
He caused some of them to be opened, to observe
their contents, and found in the centre of each, the
remains of one or more human bodies, which had
been deposited under something that had the appear-
ance of a roof, consisting of beams of larch wood,
placed so as to join together at top, and spread wide
below. These had been afterwards covered to a
great height with a large mound of earth, which

1793. *on the value and uses of the larch tree.* 9
had remained in that position till all tradition of their first erection had been lost. He found the larch wood there entire and uncorrupted, though every thing else of vegetable or animal origin was utterly decayed.

After this example it may by some be deemed unnecessary to mention others. But in a case of so much importance it is impossible to have proofs too full; especially if they are of such a nature as easily can be verified by private individuals, who can have no opportunity of examining the foundation of the houses of Venice, or exploring the tombs of Kamtschatka. Such are those that follow:

In the garden of Mr Dempster, so long distinguished for his respectable conduct in the British parliament, a spire of young larix wood, not thicker at the root end than a man's wrist, was found to have remained fixed in the ground as a hop pole summer and winter for five, six, or seven years, (the precise number could not be ascertained,) without the smallest symptom of *rotting* being discoverable in it. Any other kind of wood I have seen, similarly circumstanced, would have been more decayed in six months than it was.

Alternate stakes of larch and oak wood having been tried to support the nets of a decoy in Lincolnshire, two sets of the oak had been worn out, as my informant assured me, before any marks of decay appeared on the larch stakes: the experiment is still going forward.

Two gates were erected with wooden gate posts, one of the posts of each gate being made of the best

10 *on the value and uses of the larch tree.* Sept. 4.
foreign fir log, and the other of larch wood. One set of the fir posts is worn out, and another put into their place at each gate; but the larch continues still firm. This experiment also is still in its progress.

A trough for feeding hogs made of deal of larch wood had been placed beneath a large tree in the fields, where it had stood soaked in water and dirt for five or six years: on being scraped clean it was found to be perfectly sound; and having been converted into another use, stood in a stable for several years longer without any mark of decay; when the stable being taken down, the experiment was discontinued.

"It resists, says *Mr Ritchie*, the British chargé des affairs at Venice, speaking of larch wood, the temperature of the air, more than any other wood known in this country, and therefore it is much used for making outer gates, pales &c. which are constantly exposed to the open air. It is no less durable within doors; and in some of the old palaces here, there are beams of larix as sound as when first placed there. *In a word, wherever strength and durability are required, this is reckoned here the most choice and valuable wood*; and it may be applied to a great number of uses*."

It would be unnecessary to enumerate more proofs of the incorruptible nature and singularly valuable qualities of this wood, and therefore the remaining part of this essay shall be appropriated to an enu-

* Memoirs of the society of arts, London, vol. iii.

1793. *on the value and uses of the larch tree.* 11
meration of some of the principal uses to which it
has either been already applied, or for which it may
be employed in arts and domestic economy.

Garden walls, rails, and other fences.

We can form an idea of a thousand uses to which
this wood could be applied with economy in rural af-
fairs, could it be obtained in abundance. Garden walls
are reared in this country at a great expence; and
even when reared, are liable to many accidents: but
were larch wood to be had in abundance, a wall capable
of enduring for a great length of time might be e-
rected, by placing some upright posts of a proper
size at due distances, and nailing upon these boards
of larch wood, till it should attain the height required.
These walls, for fruit trees, would be infinitely pre-
ferable to any other sort yet employed, as the nails
could always be driven precisely in the place wanted;
and nails of a much smaller size than are at present
employed, indeed tacks of no large size would hold
perfectly firm, so as to give room for a prodigious
saving in the article of nails;—and if these tacks
were made of cast iron, which they might easily be,
the saving here would be immense.

It is hardly necessary to take notice that espa-
liers of this wood would be proportionally benefi-
cial.

With regard to other fences, it is sufficiently ob-
vious that all kinds of railing would be, of this
wood, so much more durable than of any other
kind known in this country, as to render fences of
that sort eligible on many occasions where they
cannot be had at present. Were we indeed to enter

12 *on the value and uses of the larch tree. Sept. 4.*
on a computation of the national saving that would accrue from the use of dead fences, in place of living, by obtaining the ground that is lost on embankments: by the additional produce that would be obtained even on the flat fields near to a dead fence, and that which can be got from the ground exhausted by the roots of bushes and hedge plants; and should we add to these, the being freed from the ravages of sparrows, wherever hedges are employed as fences for corn fields; and the benefit the farmer would derive from being freed of the trouble of annually rooting out noxious weeds, the seeds of which are blown from plants that spring up in his hedges, which cannot be there extirpated; the amount of it would be so great as to exceed any calculation that a man would at the present time venture to put down in figures. There can however be no doubt but several millions of people might be well supported upon the ground that in this island at present is lost and deteriorated by these means*.

* To give some slight idea of the loss that is thus sustained in Britain, I beg leave to refer to the recollection of every person who has travelled in England, if he has not remarked that in a great many places, particularly in the richest counties, the fences in general consist of a great mound of earth, frequently ten or twelve feet in breadth at the base, stuck full of thorns, briars, brambles, hazle, and a variety of other brush wood, beyond which is usually a ditch of about six feet more. Nor can the plough approach within less than three feet of all this waste ground on either side, which is besides rendered almost barren and useless by the roots of the trees spreading in it. This would make a border of twenty-two feet around every field thus inclosed, that may be said to be totally annihilated for the purposes of husbandry. From a field of five acres so inclosed, if you suppose two sides of it bounded by a road, there would be

A kind of dead fences have lately been introduced into practice in those parts of Scotland where extensive plantations of Scots fir have been made;

a loss of three quarters of an acre nearly, or about one seventh part of the whole. If it were divided into gardens of a quarter of an acre each, the loss would be more than one half of the whole.

But say, that instead of one seventh, which may be nearly the proportion wasted in the richest and best inclosed grounds in the kingdom, the real waste upon the whole of Britain thus incurred should not exceed one twentieth part: as it is computed that there are above fifty millions of acres in Britain, this would bring the waste arising from this source to two millions five hundred thousand acres; and as the produce of an acre of land well cultivated will maintain two persons for one year, the land thus wasted might sustain no fewer than five millions of persons!!!

Nor is this the whole of the loss accruing to the nation from living hedges; the destruction that is done by sparrows upon corn fields surrounded by live hedges is immense, and baffles all calculation. The labour too that is employed annually in making and repairing hedges, and the waste that arises from beasts breaking through such imperfect fences, if fairly estimated, would amount to a vast sum; all of which may be accounted a real waste, and a dead draught from the wealth and industry of the nation. These defalcations are not adverted to, because the abuses that give rise to them are of old standing, and have crept into use imperceptibly. But there can be no doubt, that in small fields of rich land thus inclosed, the average produce that might be obtained from them, were the live fences entirely removed, and others of the sort recommended in the text substituted in their stead, might be augmented at least one fourth more than it is at present; and consequently the rent that could be paid for these fields would be augmented in a yet higher ratio. It behoves men of sense to advert to a circumstance of such immense importance.

Should the beauty of live fences be deemed an object of so much consequence by some, as to make them willing to forego some advantages for the pleasure of looking at them, that beauty may by the help of our fences be obtained without loss, by substituting fruit trees or berry bushes in lieu of the barren brush now employed. Should

14 *on the uses and value of the larch tree. Sept. 4.*
and where of course that kind of wood can be got at a small expence. The thinnings of these plantations which are cut out when the trees are the thickness of a man's leg and under, are cut into lengths of four or five feet, according to the height of the intended fence; these are pointed at one end, and sawed streight across at the other; they are then placed in a row at small distances from each other, and driven into the earth with a wooden mallet, leaving their tops all of one height. Upon the top of these is fixed a lath of wood sawed,

the fence be made of larch supports, joined together by sawed boards about four inches broad, running horizontally, at the distance of six or eight inches from each other, the branches of a jargonelle pear or an apple of any valuable kind, might be trained, horizontally along these bars as if upon a wall; and if one tree was planted on one side the fence opposite to the interval between two trees on the other side of it, the whole might thus be filled on both sides. This could easily be done by means of lists and nails or tacks driven into the wood; but even these two articles of expence might be saved, if a thin piece of lath were nailed along the upper part of each bar, leaving a small opening of about a quarter of an inch between the lath and the bar. Thus might the branches be fastened to this lath by means of withy or willow twigs, and no nails whatever used.

Should currants or other berry bearing bushes be preferred, they might be fastened by a similar contrivance, and the tops be allowed to advance so far above the wood as to give it the appearance of a live hedge.

In rich grounds abundant orchards might thus be obtained, and the waste occasioned by their roots be plentifully repaid by the fruit.

The only other use that can be pleaded for live hedges is for affording fire wood. But this could in all cases be much more economically obtained, where necessary, by appropriating a patch of ground of a proper size for the farm entirely to that purpose, as has been very properly recommended by lord Kames, as a necessary appendage to every farm.

See gentleman farmer.

1793. *on the value and uses of the larch tree.* 13
which joins the whole together. Thus it has a neat appearance, and is upon the whole a fence which has every thing that could be desired, were it sufficiently durable. Were it made of larch, that quality would be obtained, so that it would be quite complete.

Those who live in countries that are already inclosed, are, upon the present plan of fences, subjected to no other losses or inconveniences than those above enumerated: but where inclosures are not yet made, a man's life-time must be nearly elapsed before live hedges can be made a sufficient fence; so that it is impossible to estimate the loss, and trouble, and embarrassment to which he is thus subjected*,

* To plant hedges in a country where hedges already abound, is not an enterprise of immense difficulty, because dead brush in such a situation can always be obtained to make a temporary fence for its protection; and because the hedge, on account of the shelter it there obtains will advance with greater rapidity. The domestic animals too in such a country, not being accustomed to range so much at large as in open countries, the farmer is not subjected to so much trouble in guarding them against damage as in the other situation: but a man who attempts first to rear hedges in an open country, where no trees or shelter abound exposes himself to an innumerable train of vexatious anxieties; for which he can scarcely ever receive an adequate compensation. Hence we see in every such part of the country many attempts of this sort that have proved abortive, where, after great sums of money had been uselessly expended, the fields are left in a mangled and often deteriorated state, from the abortive operations that have been made upon them. Men of sense, by whom alone every important improvement in a country must ultimately be carried forward, seeing these distressing evils before their eyes, are deterred from engaging in such ruinous enterprises, the country is left unenclosed; and thousands of conveniences must be foregoed, because of want of fences. By the mode here proposed, this great evil might be universally

or to conceive an idea of the rapidity with which improvements would be carried forward on many occasions, were this conveniency put within his reach. One improvement, it is well known, accelerates another; so that by stopping one, like poisoning a seed in embryo, you may stop many thousands of others for ages, that might have been going forward in an endless succession of accumulating progression. It will be seen in the sequel, that larch wood may be reared in such abundance, and in such a short space of time for this purpose in every possible situation, that were men to set themselves seriously to rear it, there is no part of Britain that might not in ten or twelve years at farthest possess the advantages that would be thus derived from it, along with many others that shall be specified in some future number of this work.

To be continued:

LETTER FROM SENEX.

SIR,

To the Editor of the Bee.

AFTER a long absence, I return again to my native land. The distress which oppressed me when last I wrote to you, seemed ready to put a period to that existence which though productive of little joy we all

retroved in a few years; and a man, like Ariel in the tempest, when ever he found he had immediate occasion for an enclosure, could obtain it almost "with a wish."

are formed by an instinctive bias to wish to preserve. I looked forward with a kind of solemn serenity to the near approach of that awful scene which awaiteth all mankind. My physician, alarmed for a life which his partiality had rendered dear to him, pushed me away; make haste said he, before the approach of winter fly to some warmer region, where the chilling blasts of December may not overpower your weakly frame. I hesitated; for whither to go I knew not—.No daughter was left to cheer the evening of life, with those tender cares which it so much becomes her to minister to a father. To go in the state of health I then experienced to a distant region among strangers, to me appeared a task more frightful to encounter than death itself. Suffer me then, O my friend, I said, at least to die in peace. The utmost that could be expected from all your anxious care and skill would be only to prolong for a few moments more that brittle thread, which soon at all events must break. What avails it whether this shall take place to day or tomorrow, or some months, or even years hence? All that life is worth the wishing for is gone, and were it not for the ideal pleasure of holding converse at times with those who have gone before, and thus exalting the mind to a degree of happy enthusiasm, I should not have spirits to converse even with you; for all would then be a settled gloom, without one spark of day. Suffer me then to close my days in peace, and to indulge the sweet idea that when the scene is finally closed, my body shall be deposited by you in the same grave with those I loved.

My friend was silent to these expostulations. The tear rolled in his eye, but he answered me not; a few days afterwards he returned with a cheerful countenance. I have just received a letter (he said,) that you will be glad to see. It is from Julia, (for so I shall call her at present,) and put it in my hand. Julia was the intimate companion of my dear, dear, girl, who has now been long at her rest; she was the greatest favourite beyond my own family I ever had on earth. Her absence, which the situation of her family rendered necessary, added not a little to the grief that overwhelmed me. She afterwards married a man of great worth in the Bahama islands. Our intercourse was thus in some measure suspended; but she never forgot the friend of her youth, nor her aged father. She had heard how much my health had been impaired. She had been afraid to write to myself; but she wrote to my friend, with the most engaging solicitude inquiring about the father of her friend. She had heard of the severe effects of the former winter: she dreaded those of that which was to come. She praised the serenity and mildness of the climate in which she breathed. She thought if I could venture to come thither, it would be productive of the happiest effects. She dwelt upon this theme with a most engaging prolixity. She concluded by entreating my friend to press me, if still in life, and capable in his opinion of undertaking the voyage, to come there, where the winter blasts were never experienced; and where she would take a particular pleasure in performing those little assiduities which the departure of her friend;

so cruelly deprived me of. It would be to her, she said, a source of peculiar felicity ; as she would feel, that in performing these pious offices, she would obtain the warmest approbation of that blessed spirit, who could not fail to look down with particular complacency upon her, while thus employed. " This thought is to me she said, highly consolatory. Deprive me not then, she kindly said, of the means of obtaining perhaps the most unmixed felicity that this earth can afford ; for at the same time that I shall thus be suffered to indulge the idea of gaining the approbation of the spirit of my departed friend, I shall be sure of conciliating, in the most engaging manner, the tenderest affection of my beloved husband, whose soul delights in acts of kindness, and who doats upon his Julia, merely because he is convinced that she takes pleasure in acts of tenderness and piety."

There is a charm in female softness, which I think no human heart is capable of resisting. I felt its full force on the present occasion. My friend pressed me to obey this endearing call. I went. My voyage to London, for I could not undergo the fatigue of a journey by land, was pleasing. I had to wait only a few days in the metropolis before a vessel sailed for *New Providence*, in which I took my passage. I felt my health recover from day to day. Before I landed my strength was already in some measure returned. I found my Julia, as I had ever done, mildly placid, and innocently chearful. While she presented me with exultation to her husband, the tear of recollection started from her eye. It was momentary. The good man, tenderly embraced me. He saw my

heart was big with strong emotions, and hastened to present his son, a pleasing child of two years old, whose little prattle in a short time called off our attention from thoughts that ought not perhaps to be too much indulged. In this delightful family, I have experienced a degree of felicity that I believed had for ever been banished from me ; and having recovered unwonted strength, I have now come back to settle some little affairs that the hurry of my departure, and the uncertainty about my future destination prevented me from doing before I went. If it shall please Heaven to grant health, I intend to return thither, and bid an eternal adieu to this part of the world, where now I have scarcely the appearance of a tie to bind me to it ; for my friend the good doctor, who was so anxious about my fate, has himself paid the debt of nature before me. He was strong and healthy : but all are subject to the power of the grim tyrant ; and of every man that breathes it may be truly said, that “ the place which now knows him will soon remember him no more.”

In my pleasing retreat, it was a great consolation to me that I had the satisfaction of reading your miscellany. Many copies of it circulate in that island, and I found one of them appropriated by my friend. He is much pleased with it, and means from time to time to contribute his mite, as he says, to the general store. Julia, though naturally chearful, has yet a cast of seriousness; and she delights, as you will perceive by some expressions above, in those kind of religious exercises, that carry the mind forward from this transitory world, into the regions of spi-

rits, where we hope to meet with pleasures unmixed with those dregs of humanity which deaden them in this world. Among a French collection of translations from the German, many of which she used to read with pleasure, there was one piece in particular, intitled *Les Solitudes*, by the baron Croneck, which was so perfectly congenial to her turn of mind, that she used to read it with particular marks of delight. Indeed there is so much in it of that tenderness which a delicate mind, highly susceptible of generous emotions, must often experience ; and so little of the dreary gloom of fanatical despair, that I conceive there will be found much of nature in it, by all those who have formed in this world, any very pleasing connections that have been broken in the course of the ordinary events of life, that will make it very generally interesting. The husband of Julia, observing the warm partiality of his wife for this piece, and fond of it at the same time himself, thought he would give her an agreeable surprise by translating it for your miscellany, without letting her know of it. He therefore did this by stealth ; and gave me the translation just before I came away to communicate to you. I now discharge the trust reposed on me, by transmitting it to you, along with this letter ; and hope you will find it convenient to insert it early in your Bee. I have some remarks to make on your miscellany, but at present shall only say, that I am happy to find you adhere so strictly to your declared purpose of chasteness, both as to morals and politics ; though on this last head, you have perhaps allowed yourself to be a

little drawn aside at times ; but these I see are only temporary wanderings, and of trivial consequence. Continue to have your eye steadily fixed on promoting the general interests of humanity ; and firmly determine to follow truth through good report, and bad report, as I am glad to see you have hitherto done, and you have nothing to fear. The fourteenth volume had reached Bermuda before I left it, but I had seen only the thirteenth, for I was told just as I was stepping into the vessel, that Mr Wells had that very morning received the fourteenth volume. Offering my best acknowledgement to your correspondent

for his obliging remembrance of me, I remain with esteem your sincere friend

London, August }
8. 1793. }

SENEZ*.

ON BORAX.

For the Bee.

The following letter from Patna was transmitted in a packet from Dr Anderson of Madras, dated the 28 February last. It contains a very distinct account of the formation of Borax ; and gives a view of the natural state of some of the internal provinces in India, that will prove interesting to European readers. One of the most striking differences between Asia and Europe seems to be, that the former has a much greater tendency to produce natural saline concretions of various sorts than the latter. If the fact be admitted, it would prove an interesting disquisition to discover the circumstances that tend to produce this effect.

* The translation above named is th. * fully received, and will be inserted with the earliest opportunity.

The provinces of Thibet in particular, and Cashemire seem to be very peculiarly circumstanced, in regard to soil, situation, climate, and productions of the animal, vegetable, and mineral kingdoms; on which account any farther authentic information from thence will prove very acceptable.

DEAR SIR,

In compliance with your request, I will now give you all the information I am able concerning the formation of borax, at the solicitation of M. Voghet, a German naturalist. I was some years ago induced to inquire after this production, and for this purpose I wrote to the brother of the Raja of Nepaul, *Babadur Sab*, on the subject, as our missionaries had not for many years visited the province of Nepaul, which extends towards the north as far as the frontiers of Thibet. The Raja's brother, for the better satisfying my curiosity, sent me down to Patna, one of his own servants, a native of that part of the country where borax is found. This man then, who spoke the Nepaleze language, and which I perfectly understood, answered to my different questions in the following manner :

In the province of *Marmé*, about twenty-eight days to the north of Nepaul and twenty-five days to the west of Lassa, there is a valley about eight miles in circumference. On the district of this valley there are two villages, the one called *Scierugh*, and the other *Kangle*. The whole occupation of the inhabitants of those two places is of digging out the borax, and to carry it to Nepaul, or Thibet, where it is sold. The soil of that valley is so barren that only a few scattered reeds are to be seen. The natives of Ne-

paul call the borax *soaga*, the same name as the Hindoos give it. Near the two villages in the valley there is a large pond, with several small ones, where-in after rain the water remains. In those very ponds after the water has remained for a certain time, the borax is to be found formed. The people then enter into those ponds, and with their feet try to discover in what part the borax is to be met with, because wherever they find the bottom very smooth as if it was paved, there the borax is formed, and directly dig it out in pieces without much force or apparatus. The deeper the water, the thicker is the borax found, and always found in its upper part covered with an inch or two of mud. Thus is the borax naturally formed, and not prepared, as all along it has been thought in Europe. The water in which the borax is formed is of such a poisonous nature as to cause death in a very short time to any animal that should drink the smallest quantity of it, bringing first a great turgescence on the abdomen. The ground in which the borax is produced is of a whitish colour.

Four miles from the borax ponds in the same valley there are the salt mines, whereby all the inhabitants of that remote mountainous part of the world are supplied. The natives of the two villages can dig out the borax without paying any sort of contribution: but the strangers are obliged to pay a certain sum to the person that governs there, according to the convention made, and the people of Marmè pay to a Lama called *Pema Tupkan* to whom the borax mines belong. Ten days more to the north

of Marmé, there is another valley called *Tapri*, in which likewise borax is dug out. There are also ponds where borax is dug out, in another plain called *Gioga*; but of this I could not learn the exact situation.

As the borax evaporates very quickly, the natives, to prevent any such loss before they can sell it, mix earth with it thinly coated with butter.

In another territory sixteen days distant from, and to the north of Nepaul a great number of arsenic mines are to be found. Mines of brimstone also are to be met with in many parts of Thibet; and besides, gold and silver mines of a richer and purer quality than even the Peruvian. All this is what I could collect from the conversation I had with the man sent to me by *Babadur Sab*.

To that intelligence I can add that of a drug called by the European medical world, *Terra Japonica*; by the natives of Indostan *Kat*: but I shall not detain you on its account, as I know it has been fully described and published in England by Dr Kier. Some years ago I obtained the information respecting it; and I sent to one of our missionaries at Betjiah an order to send me down the seeds, the wood, and a small tree of the *Kat*, which I gave to the learned Dr Hunter, then stationed at Patna, who communicated the whole discovery to his friend Dr Kier then residing also in Patna, from whom I am glad to hear the world has received the information.

Should you wish to have some information concerning the animal that gives the genuine musk, I can very easily satisfy your curiosity by sending you the skin of one of them; as it appears to me not

yet well described by any of our naturalists. The northern mountains of Nepaul abound with such animals ; and I have, when there, seen a great number, and eat the flesh, which is certainly delicious.

This is all that at present I have worth communicating to you, and should I in future hear or think of something that would be acceptable to your curiosity, I shall deem my best duty the imparting it to you. Dear Sir, most obedient humble servant,

J—H B—A

Anecdote of Dr Franklin.

IN his travels through New England, he had observed, that when he went into an inn, every individual had a question or two to propose to him, relative to his history ; and that till each was satisfied, and they had conferred and compared together their information, there was no possibility of procuring any refreshment.—Therefore the moment he went into any of these places, he inquired for the master, the mistress, the sons, the daughters, the men servants, and the maid servants ; and having assembled them all together, he began in this manner. “ Good people, I am Benjamin Franklin of Philadelphia, by trade a printer ; and a bachelor ; I have some relations at Boston, to whom I am going to make a visit : my stay will be short, and then I shall return and follow my business, as a prudent man ought to do. This is all I know of myself, and all I can possibly inform you of ; I beg therefore that you will have pity on me and my horse, and give us both some refreshment.”

POETRY.

HOPE.

For the Bee.

HOPE's a cordial hourly wanted,
And by indulgent Heav'n granted
To comfort us in ev'ry scene
The cradle and the grave between.
No harm befallerh mind or body,
But as a friend, hope's ever ready.
Loath, very loath to give denial,
Is a support in ev'ry trial.
While here on earth, such our condition,
Hope gives ev'n more than does fruition.
If we're with poverty distrest,
Hope says "our wants may be redrest."
If for an absent friend we mourn,
Hope whispers, "he may soon return;"
And when impending dangers brave,
Hope says "the powers above will save".
When pain and sickness sore depress,
Hope is a med'cine in distress.
Hopes of returning health and ease,
Somewhat alleviate disease.
Life without hope would torpid be,
This world a world of misery;
Activity and means would cease,
And dull stagnation would take place.
What man would work for daily bread,
Did he not hope thereon to feed?
Sure none would industry pursue,
If hope had no reward in view.
But hope excites and animates
To what to use or bliss relates.
'Tis this sets all the world a-work,
Heathen, Christian, Jew, and Turk.
The husbandman doth plough and sow,
Hoping a fertile crop will grow.
The workman plods, he labours hard,
Hope stimulates, looks for reward.
How many thousands sail the main,
Riches in hopes thereby to gain?
The soldier fights, he storms the town,
Hoping for vict'ry and renown.
Hope's influence let us now pursue,
As seen in a religious view.
What sufferings did good men endure,
For conscience sake, religion pure?
Hoping that in the world unseen,
All those who here have virtuous been

Shall after death to life awake,
And of celestial joys partake?

Hope of remission, does excite
To leave what's wrong, and do what's right.
Who would repent of actions bad,
If he no hopes of pardon had?
What would make men from evil cease,
But hope of pardon,—favour,—peace?
Forbidden pleasures we despise,
In hope of pure immortal joys,
We praise and pray, we fear and love,
Hoping for mercy from above.

May virtue be our fixed choice,
That in our hopes we may rejoice.
If what in us is wrong we mend,
Our hopes will in enjoyment end.
They who sincerely do their best,
In a well-grounded hope may rest.

A .D.

THE ORPHAN.

Poor boy—though in thy tender years,
Thine eyes are dim'd with flowing tears,
Thy little heart dissolv'd in grief,
Thou canst not hope from man relief!

O child of sorrow cease to weep,
Though in the dust thy parents sleep;
The bands of death thou canst not break,
Nor from the tomb the slumb'ers wake.

An early orphan left alone,
Upon the world deserted thrown;
A mother's love who can supply?
Or watch thee with a father's eye?

Though all unmindful of thy good,
Forgetful of a brother's blood,
And heedless of thy woeful state,
Thy kindred cast thee off to fate—

The God, who gave to them the pow'r
To aid thee in this trying hour,
To thee his mercies may extend,
And ever prove thy stedfast friend.

His love thy tender youth may shield,
His hand exhaustless treasures yield,
His wisdom pour the precepts kind
Of life eternal in thy mind.

Cease—child of sorrow, cease to weep,
Though in the dust thy parents sleep,
The Saviour of the world shall be
A father ever unto thee.

LITERARY INTELLIGENCE.

NOTICES OF SOME INTERESTING PARTICULARS COMMUNICATED
TO THE ECONOMICAL SOCIETY OF ST PETERSBURGH, EX-
TRACTED FROM THE RECORDS OF THAT SOCIETY

D. Guthrie

BY ARCTICUS.

*On the White Sea fisheries, by a Russian merchant of Arch-
angel, Alexander Fomin.*

THIS fishery was first set up by the present empress, who engaged some Hollands fishermen to carry it on for government account, and teach the business to a certain number of her subjects, selected for that purpose. As soon as she thought they were sufficiently instructed to carry it on by themselves, she left it to a company furnished with necessary privileges, who seem to have made as little profit by it as the crown had done, and now it is in the hands of the peasants, who catch the fish for a few of those instructed by the Hollanders, who cure them each for his own account without any monopoly.

In answer to some questions asked by the society, at one of these instructed Russians, who now speculates in the trade for himself, a certain Swagin, relative to the causes of bad success in this great national object, he gives a few which he divides into political and natural. The natural are simply the scarcity of herrings and cod in some seasons; and the political, first an impolitic law which subjects to a duty as foreign fish, such as the

* These notices are chiefly valuable because they afford a view of the internal state and polity of the Russian empire that is not to be found but in such local dissertations as the present; what a miserable prospect does this afford of the fisheries in the White Sea! *Edit.*

Russians catch and cure in the Danish bays, when they are more plentiful there than in their own.

adly, The rude treatment the peasants met with from the Dutch boors quartered on them, who literally smoaked them out of their cottages, without paying attention to the dislike they have to tobacco; especially a sect of fanatics called *Roskolnicks*, who are very numerous in these parts, (resembling in some degree our British methodists,) and who regard the smoak of tobacco as a species of religious abomination, as the Jews did pork &c.; this treatment alienated so completely the peasants from the fishery, that they could only be compelled by force to work at it, and secretly hurt it by every means in their power, so that the expences were scarcely paid by the profits, when in the hands of government, and the company who next took it up. The principal drawbacks upon its success, now that it is open to all without restriction and monopoly, arise from the article of *salt*, like those of your Scotch fisheries, which otherways must be a great national blessing. What a pity it is that your ministers, now that they have given up all thoughts of drawing any revenue from the salt used in your fisheries, to the great honour of the legislature, cannot find a little time to take off a set of *useless checks in the old regulations*, which operate, as I see by different accounts, as a sort of prohibition to what, if properly regulated, to the ease and profit of the thousands who emigrate from the north, would equal if not surpass, any coloneal advantage, which the happy and towering island, ever did, or ever will draw, from many it has planted in distant regions. It would appear to me as a laudable species of ambition to a certain countryman of ours, who has at present that influence in the ministry, which his great and solid talents, joined to his honourable station in it,

naturally create, to take the lead in all great national objects to the north of the Tweed, and not leave them in the hands of political adventurers, whose greatest merit is what you call *the gift of the gab*, and who only take up such affairs in hopes that the landed and burgh interests in Scotland will defeat the application, to teize and distress government; not caring a farthing, or I am much mistaken, if you should all be obliged to live on what Johnson has learnedly discovered in his dictionary *to be food for men in Scotland, and for horses in England*.

But to return to Mr Swagin's causes of want of success in the *White Sea fishery*, the last he states, and which led me into this long digression, arises from the article *salt*, but not from old impolitic regulations respecting it, but a real deficiency in that necessary and indispensable ingredient, which you certainly cannot complain of, surrounded as you are by the sea, more salt than that at Archangel. He gives the following little history of the different kinds of it used in the White Sea.

Whilst government kept the fishery, Spanish salt was used; and the company had no other.

In 1780 government imported a cargo of British salt, which lasted eleven years, or till 1791, so that we can guess at the extent of the trade; and since that is done, Russian salt is their only resource, which unfortunately is so scarce, that they have not permission to carry it out to salt their fish at sea; nay even on land, that necessary operation feels the want of that abundance which would make it flourish if plentiful; although he thinks the herrings of the White Sea not so good as those caught by the Dutch on the coast of the island of Great Britain, partaking in some measure of the fat of that pampered country.

32 *on the sun flower, and sesamum orientale. Sept. 42*

He pretends not to state the quantity cured by other adventurers in the fishery, but mentions his own at 120 small barrels yearly, which he makes of oak and larch.

On the economical uses of the helianthus annuus, or sun flower.

The seeds afford a good eatable oil ; the stalks potash when burned like those of Turkish corn. From the large quantity of pith obtaining in the stalks, paper may be made.

The young stalks are eat at Frankford on the Main as greens ; and the old used as fire wood.

Lastly, the stalks when broken by the wind, will unite again if tied up *.

On the sesamum orientale.

All that I shall extract from this paper, as the plant will not answer in your climate, is that its seeds afford a salad oil equal to what is drawn from olives, in the large proportion of one half pound from two pounds of seed. This I only give as a matter of curiosity, although it may be useful in our colonies ; but I have, and shall be more full, on all such hardy plants, as promise to be of use to Great Britain, for which you know my attachment, and contempt for all innovators who would trouble its peace, if the good sense of the nation did not keep them in awe.

I send you some very fresh seed just obtained from the Bucharian Tartars, of the sesamum orientale, which

* This plant has been recommended to the notice of the farmers in France some years ago, in the memoirs of the Society of Agriculture Paris, for nearly the same purposes as are mentioned here. It is a strong growing plant, but does not ripen its seeds soon enough to admit of being cultivated with any prospect of profit in Scotland or suppose in any part of Great Britain.

you may boldly send to the colonies, if you think it worth while, properly put up, without much fear of their being spoiled even *by a long voyage*, as you will probably think with me when you have read the following note on the incorruptibility, if I may use the expression, of the singular species of oil contained in them. However, I should suppose that *oily seeds* should be best kept during such a voyage, shut up in a glass phial, well corked, waxed, and covered with bladder, so as to avoid as much as possible the rancidity of the oil, in spite of all I am going to relate of its powers to resist it.

First, we had information to day from Astrachan, that although the *oil* of the *sesamum orientale*, (several fine samples of which were shown in the society,) is brought to that city in *bladders*, and carried through all the other *hot provinces*, on very long journies, by the Boucharian Tartars, who sell it; yet it always *comes sweet and good*; a singular quality in oil as said above, worth the attention of both the public and philosopher; as it offers to the first, a valuable article of food and commerce, and to the second, some new principle, or combination worth inquiring into. Whilst I think as hinted above, that it promises an uncommon power in the seeds to resist putrefaction, as they contain a fifth part of their bulk of that *antiseptic oil*, which appears a sort of paradox; I mean the term antiseptic applied to oil.

2dly, We had an account of its cultivation from general Beketoff in his large possessions on the Volga, between Saratoff, and Astrachan, who is regarded as a most able and skilful *econome* in this empire; his remarks are as follow: The *sesamum orientale* succeeded well on his estate, (situated as above;) but he complains of the trouble of gathering its seeds, as they ripen unequally, and of course must be taken off the plant at different times,

and by degrees ; so that he prefers to continue his ancient practice of *extracting an excellent eating oil from mustard seed*, which answers particularly well for salads, &c.

There is again, I acknowledge, something new to me in the fact of extracting *an eating oil* from mustard seed ; and we see what the invention of man will lead to, when impelled to search for a necessary article of food in warm climates, where the olive is wanting, but where the long fasts of the Greek church make *oil* an essential object of meagre diet.

I shall now finish with observing, that although the cultivation of the sesamum may not answer the purpose of a private gentleman ; especially when he is already in possession of something of the kind that answers his purpose ; still if it should be found an article of profit in our islands where negroes are kept, it may there possibly become an object of commerce with the Spaniards and French ; if the last are still religious enough to eat fish and oil in lent. A propos to *lent*, what do the Newfoundland fishers say to the new Gallic religion, and that which their propagande are preaching to other catholic nations ? Are they not afraid that they might take the whim of eating roast beef like yourselves on meagre days ; and leave the poor persecuted fish in the sea, from a new refinement of philanthropy.



THE INDIAN COTTAGE,

A TALE.

*Translated from the French,**M. For the Bee. G. G. G. G.*

THIS little tale has been much admired in France ; and it appeared so interesting to a respectable literary gentleman here to whom the Editor lent a copy of it, that he thought it worth his while to translate it ; and with much politeness sent the translation with the book when he returned it. The tale entire would perhaps be deemed rather long for this Miscellany. A small part of it is therefore now submitted to the consideration of the readers. And a short abstract only is given of the introductory part of it. The story is as under.

An English philosopher, a learned doctor, and member of the Royal Society in London, is represented as being sent out by that learned body to travel all over the world in quest of truth and the art of attaining happiness. He is made successively to visit the different countries in Europe, and to converse with the learned bodies of men associated in each of them : but from these the answers to all his questions prove unsatisfactory. He then goes to travel through Persia ; to India, where after conversing with some brahmins apart, he resolves to visit the chief of that order in the famous temple Jaggernaut, who is represented to him as capable alone to answer all his questions. He visits that temple and converses with the chief brahmins, where, instead of what he sought, he finds only pride, vanity, and ignorance.

On his return from thence, much disappointed, he was overtaken by one of those hurricanes which in the Indies they call a typhon.

Extract.

The wind came from the sea, and caused the waters of the Ganges to flow back, dashing them in foam against the islands at its mouth. It raised from their shores columns of sand, and from their forests clouds of leaves, which it carried in confusion across the river, and the plains, and up to the higher regions of the air. Sometimes it ingulphed itself in the bamboo alley, and although these Indian reeds were high as the tallest trees, it bent them like the grass in the

meadows. Through the eddying whirls of dust and of leaves, one saw the avenue all waving with them; one part of them laid down to right and left flat to the ground, while the other rose sighing to the gale. The doctor's people afraid of being crushed by them, or overwhelmed by the waters of the Ganges, which overflowed their banks, took their route across the plains, directing their course at a venture towards the neighbouring heights. Meanwhile night comes on, and they had travelled three hours in the most profound darkness, not knowing whither they were going, when a flash of lightning rending the clouds and illuminating all the horizon, showed them afar upon their right the pagoda of Jaggernaut, the isles of the Ganges, and the raging sea; and close before them a little valley and a wood between two hills. They ran thither for shelter, and already the thunder was heard rolling along in most tremendous peals, when they arrived at the entrance of the valley. It was flanked with rocks, and full of aged trees of a prodigious size. Though the tempest bent their tops with a dreadful bellowing noise, their monstrous trunks were as immovable as the rocks that environed them. This portion of the ancient forest seemed the asylum of peaceful repose; but it was difficult to penetrate. The brambles which were entwined with each other, and crept around its skirts, covered the foot of the trees; and the ivy tendrils which reached from one trunk to another, presented on all sides only a leafy rampart, within which there appeared some green caverns, but without any outlet. Meanwhile the reispouts having opened a passage with their sabres, all the doctor's suite entered with himself in his palanquin. There they thought themselves secure from the tempest; when the rain that fell as fast as it could pour, formed around them a thousand torrents. In this perplexity, they perceived under the trees, in the straitest part of the valley, a light from a hut. The Masalchi ran thither to light his flambeau; but he came back a little after, out of breath crying, "Keep off, keep off; a paria, a paria!" Immediately the whole troop alarmed cried "A paria, a paria!" The doctor imagining that it was some ferocious animal, clapt his hand upon his pistols. "What is it you call a paria, said he to the fellow that carried his flambeau?" "It is, replied the latter, a man that has neither faith nor law." "It is replied the chief of the reispouts, an Indian of a cast so infamous that it is lawful to kill him if he only touch one. If we enter his house, we cannot, for nine moons, set our foot in any pagoda; and to purify ourselves it will be necessary to bathe ourselves nine times in the Ganges, and to cause

themselves to be as often washed by the hand of a brahmin in *cow's urine*." All the Indians cried out, "No we will not enter the abode of a paria." 'How did you know, said the doctor to his flambeau bearer, that your countryman was a paria, that is without faith or law.' "Because, replied the flambeau bearer, when I opened the door of his hut I saw, that along with his dog, he was lying on the same mat with his wife, and was offering her something to drink in a cow's horn." All the people attending the doctor repeated their former refusal, "No we will not enter the abode of a paria!" 'Stay then here if you please, said the Englishman: for my part all the casts of the Indies are alike to me, when I have no other concern with them but only to shelter myself from the rain.' Saying these words he descended from his palanquin; and taking under his arm his book of questions with his night gown, and in his hand his pistols and his pipe, he came away from them quite alone to the door of the hut. Scarce had he knocked, when a man of a very mild physiognomy came to open it, and immediately started back, saying, "I am only, Sir, a poor paria, and am not worthy to receive you; but if you think proper to shelter yourself in my hut, you will do me very great honour." 'Brother replied the Englishman, I gladly accept your hospitality.'

Meanwhile the paria went out with a torch in his hand, a burden of dry sticks on his back, and a basket full of cocoanuts and bananas under his arm. He went towards the doctor's attendants, who were at some distance under a tree, and said to them, "Since you will not do me the honour to enter my hut, here are nuts in their shells, which you can eat without being polluted; and here is some fire to dry you and to save you from the tygers. May God preserve and bless you." He immediately returned into his hut, and said to the doctor, "Sir, I repeat it to you, I am only a poor paria; but, as I see from your colour and dress that you are not an Indian, I hope you will feel no repugnance against the victuals that your poor servant will set before you." At the same time he laid down upon a mat, some roasted potatoes, bananas done upon the gridiron, and a pot of rice, with sugar, and milk of the cocoanut; after which he withdrew to his mat beside his wife, and his child which was asleep hard by in its cradle. 'Virtuous man, said the doctor, you are much better than I am, since you do good to those who despise you. If you honour me not with your presence upon the same mat, I shall think that you take me for a bad man, and I will go out of your cottage instantly, though I should be drowned by the rain, or devoured by the tygers.'

The paria came and seated himself on the same mat with his guest; and they both began to eat. Meanwhile the doctor enjoyed some pleasure in being in a place of security in the midst of the tempest. The hut was undisturbed by the tempest. Besides its being situated in the narrowest part of the vale, it was built under a var, or banian fig tree, whose branches, which strike out roots at their extremities where they touch the ground, form so many arches which support the principal trunk. The foliage of this tree was so thick, that not a drop of rain passed through it; and although the hurricane resounded with terrible bellowing blasts of wind, intermixed with claps of thunder, the smoke of the fire which ascended through the middle of the roof, and the flame of the lamp, were not even disturbed. The doctor admired still more the tranquillity of the Indian, and of his spouse. Their child, black and smooth as ebony, was asleep in its cradle, its mother rocked the cradle with her foot, and amused herself with making for it a necklace of Angola pease, red and black. The father cast alternately the glance of affection upon each. In short, even the house dog shared the common happiness, lying beside the cat before the fire; he half opened from time to time his eyes and looked up to his master with complacency.

To be continued.

A VIEW OF THE PROGRESS OF THE TWO BANKS OF SCOTLAND, CONSTITUTED BY ACT OF PARLIAMENT.

The old bank.

The original Capital of that bank which was instituted A. D. 1694 was 100,000*l.* divided into shares of 100*l.* Scots, or 83*l.* 6*s.* 8*d.* Sterling.

In the year 1773, they were allowed by act of Parliament to increase their capital to 200,000*l.* In the year 1780, they were allowed a farther increase of 100,000*l.* and last, year (1792) they obtained an act allowing them to double their capital, making it in all 600,000*l.*

At each of these enlargements, the stock-holders had the privilege of subscribing, at par, their proportion of the increased capital.

The bank of Scotland divides 8 per cent. annually, upon their subscribed stock; and the current prices of a share (83*l.* 6*s.* 8*d.*) before the late enlargement of Capital in 1792, with the privilege of subscribing an equal sum into the increased stock, was 250*l.*

The royal bank.

Has run nearly the same course, and differing only in the immediate appropriation of profits. Their mode has been to

apply a certain proportion of their profits to an annual dividend, and to let the remainder run up to accumulated stock.

This bank was incorporated by royal charter in 1727, upon a capital of 111,000*l.* subscribed from the stock, and by the partners of the equivalent company.

They have since had several renewals of their charter, with additional powers and privileges,

In the year 1783, they were allowed to increase their capital to 300,000*l.* and they completed that sum from their accumulated fund, without making any call upon the proprietors.

Upon the last renewal in 1788, they were empowered to increase their capital to 600,000*l.*; and, towards that enlargement, the accumulated fund was already able to afford 100,000*l.*; the remainder of the subscription was made up by the partners.

The annual dividend upon the subscribed stock of the royal bank is now 5½ per cent.; and the price of a share (of 100*l.*) from 238*l.* to 243*l.*

CONSUMPTION OF MILK IN LONDON.

From a general view of the agriculture &c. of the county of Middlesex published by the new board of agriculture.

Though the yielding of a great quantity of milk, is naturally the principal quality wished for by the London cow-keepers in the cows they purchase; yet so indifferently have they as yet succeeded in attaining that object, that though it is well known that cows in Scotland, of the true Dutch breed, yield at the rate of 16 Scotch pints, or 8 English gallons per day, and sometimes more, yet in the neighbourhood of London, they seldom give more than 6 gallons, even in the height of the season; indeed 5 gallons in summer and 4 in winter, is a high enough average.

The account of each cow will then stand as follows:

	No. of gall.	Value of milk.
Five gallons per day for 102 days, at 6 <i>d.</i> per gallon,	510	£.22 15 0
Four gallons per day for 183 days, at 6 <i>d.</i> per gallon,	732	£.18 6 0
Total each cow,	1242	£.41 1 0

On the supposition that there are 6000 cows necessary for the supply of London and its suburbs, there are consequently 9,852,000 gallons of milk sold there in a year, or at an average, about 27,047 gallons daily; for which the cow-keepers get 246,300l.; and as the retailers get 1s. per gallon, it costs the inhabitants of London 492,600l. per annum, or about 1350l. per day, to be supplied with milk and cream. The butter consumed there comes at a greater distance, particularly from Epping, Cambridge, &c.

A CARD.

Edinburgh Sept. 1. 1793.

Jaques A-la-Greque hereby presents his compliments to *Anti-Satur-nus*, and after expressing approbation of his piece on the poison of lead &c. with all which opinions he intirely coincides; would be glad to have an explanation of the last paragraph but two, vol. xvi. p. 332, the meaning of which he is altogether at a loss to understand.

[The meaning seems to be that the Bacchanalians ought to avoid the poison of lead, est. should cut them off sooner even than the poisonous liquor itself they so greedily swallow; which would soon produce that effect.]

Edit.

He would also be much obliged to the author of *the hints on the study of natura istoria*, addressed to a young ady, if he would shew by what means he came to know that "The art of printing, *that choice blessing to society*, was discovered by a goldsmith's shopman trying experiments with stamping with shoe black, on wet paper from some of his master's puncheons.

TO CORRESPONDENTS.

THE communication by an observer is received and shall be attended to.

Philomantes wishes to see some mathematical questions inserted in the Bee. It is with much concern the Editor observes that the study of mathematics is so much on the decline in this country at present, as to make it probable that complying with this request would prove disagreeable to a great majority of his readers. He knows nothing that indicates so much an approaching decline of useful knowledge in Britain as this does, and he would be glad to see a neat disquisition by an able hand tending to explain the cause of this alarming neglect of the fundamental principles of all true knowledge in mechanics. May it not in part be ascribed to quackery in the mode of teaching it?

*** The engraver not having been able to get the plate ready that should have accompanied this number it is delayed till the next, rather than to give it now in an imperfect state.

THE BEE,

OR

LITERARY WEEKLY INTELLIGNER,

FOR

WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 11. 1793.

 IVAN CZAROWITZ,

OR THE ROSE WITHOUT PRICKLES, THAT STINGS NOT,

 A TALE. *Brown*

WRITTEN BY HER IMPERIAL MAJESTY.

Translated from the Russian language, for the Bee.

The following little tale was given to the Editor by a gentleman of literary eminence in this place, who assured him he might depend upon its being the performance of the august personage to whom it is ascribed, which he had access to know from particular circumstances. The translation was made by the favour of a friend who is well acquainted with the language in which it is written. It is done with an elegant simplicity which the Editor considers as perhaps the rarest, and the most valuable literary acquirement.

In the original the name of *Hlor*, is a combination of letters so unusual in English that it was thought advisable to change it into the more familiar name *Ivan*; *Tsar* a title of royalty, *Tsaritsa* the technical word denoting the Tsar's wife, and *Tsarévitch* that of their eldest son, as well as a female exercising royalty, to adapt them to the English orthography, are made *Czar*, *Czarina* and *Czarowitz*.

BEFORE the times of Kij Knese of Kieff, a Czar lived in Russia, a good man who loved truth, and

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wished well to every body. He often travelled through his dominions, that he might know how the people lived ; and every where informed himself if they acted fairly.

The Czar had a Czarina. The Czar and the Czarina lived harmoniously. The Czarina travelled with the Czar, and did not like to be absent from him.

The Czar and Czarina arrived at a certain town built on a high hill in the middle of a wood, where a son was born to the Czar, and they gave him the name Ivan. But in the midst of this joy, and of a three days festivity, the Czar received the disagreeable intelligence, that his neighbours do not live quietly,—make inroads into his territories, and do many injuries to the inhabitants of the borders. The Czar took the armies that were encamped in the neighbourhood, and went with his troops to protect the borders. The Czarina went with the Czar; the Czarowitz remained in the same town and house in which he was born. The Czar appointed to him seven prudent matrons *, well experienced in the education of children. The Czar ordered the town to be fortified with a stone wall, having towers at the corners ; but they placed no cannon on the towers, because in those days they had no cannon. The house in which the Czarowitz remained, was built of Siberian marble and porphyry, and was very neat and conveniently laid out. Behind the palace were

* The original word is Nyanya. These Nyanyas are generally old women appointed to look after children. The wet nurse in Russian is Kormilitsa, from the word Kormit, which signifies to feed.

planted gardens with fruit trees, near which fish ponds beautified the situation; summer houses made in the taste of various nations, from which the view extended to the neighbouring fields and plains, added agreeableness to the dwelling.

As the Czarowitz grew up, his female guardians began to remark that he was no less prudent and sprightly, than handsome. The fame of the beauty, wisdom, and fine accomplishments of the Czarowitz was spread abroad on all sides. A certain Han of the Kirguise Tartars, wandering in the desert with his Kibitkas,* heard of this, and was anxious to see so extraordinary an infant; and having seen him, he formed a wish to carry him away into the desert. He began by endeavouring to persuade the guardians to travel with the Czarowitz and him into the desert. The matrons told him with all politeness, that it was impossible to do this without the Czar's permission: that they had not the honour of knowing my lord Han, and that they never pay any visits with the Czarowitz to strangers. The Han has not contented with this polite answer, and stuck to them closer than formerly, just like a hungry person to a piece of paste; and insisted that the nurses should go with the child into the desert. Having at last re-

* Kibitka is a sort of tent made of mats which is used by the wandering Kirguise and other Tartar nations. It also means a kind of covered waggon used for travelling in Russia. Probably this last was the original meaning of the word among the Tartars, for these waggons were originally their habitations. When they afterwards adopted tents for that purpose, they probably gave these their dwellings still the same name as formerly.

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ceived a flat denial, he was convinced he could not succeed in his intention by intreaties, and sent them a present. They returned him thanks,—sent his present back, and ordered to tell him that they were in want of nothing.

The Han, obstinate and fixed in his resolution, considered what was to be done? It came into his head to dress himself in tattered clothes; and he sat down at the gate of the garden, as if he were a sick old man; and he begged alms of the passengers. The Czarowitz happened that day to take a walk in the garden; and observing that a certain old man sat at the gate, sent to ask who the old man was? They returned with answer that he was a sick beggar. Ivan, like a boy possessed of much curiosity, asked leave to look at the sick beggar. The matrons to pacify Ivan, told him that there was nothing to be seen; and that he might send the beggar alms. Ivan wished to give the money himself, and ran off. The attendants ran after him; but the faster they ran, the faster the child set out, and got without the gate. Having run up to the feigned beggar, his foot caught a stone, and he fell upon his face. The beggar sprung up,—took the child under his arm, and set a running down the hill. A gilded rospooki, (a kind of cart with four wheels,) trimmed with velvet, stood there:—he got on the rospooki, and galloped away with the Czarowitz into the desert.

When the guardians had run up to the gate, they found neither beggar nor child; nor did they see any traces of them. Indeed there was no road at the place where the Han went down the hill. Sitting on the rospooki, he held the Czarowitz before him with one

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hand, like a chicken by the wing, and with the other he waved his cap round his head, and cried three times hura ! On hearing this voice, the guardians ran to the slope of the hill ; but it was too late ; they could not overtake them.

The Han carried Ivan in safety to his camp, and went into his kibitka, where the grandees met the Han. The Han appointed to Ivan his best Starshina*. This Starshina took him in his arms, and carried him into a richly ornamented kibitka, covered with Chinese stuffs and Persian carpets. He set the child on a cushion of cloth of gold, and tried to pacify him : but Ivan cried and repented he had run away from his guardians. He was continually asking whither they were carrying him ? for what reason ? to what purpose ? and where he was ? The Starshina and the Kirguise that were with him, told him many stories. One said that it was so ordained by the course of the stars ; another that it was better living there than at home. They told him all but the truth. Seeing that nothing could pacify him, they tried to frighten him with nonsense ; they told him they would turn him into a bat or a hawk, that they would give him to the wolf or frog to be eaten. The Czarwitz was not fearful, and amidst his tears laughed at such nonsense. The Starshina seeing that the child had left off crying, ordered the table to be covered. They covered the table and served the supper. The Czarowitz eat a little : they then presented preserves and such fruit as they had. After supper they undressed him and put him to sleep.

* Starshina an elder-man, from Starij old.

Next morning before day break, the Han gathered his grandees, and spoke to them as follows: "Let it be known unto you, that I yesterday carried off the Czarowitz Ivan, a child of uncommon beauty and prudence. I wish to know perfectly whether all is true that is said of him; and I am determined to employ every means of trying his qualifications." The grandees having heard the the Han's words bowed themselves to the girdle. The flatterers among them praised the Han's conduct, when he had carried off a child, nay the child of a neighbouring Czar: the mean spirited approved, saying, "right lord Han, our hope, whatever you do must be right*." A few of them who really loved the Han, shook their heads, and when the Han asked them why they held their tongues, they told him frankly, "You have done wrong in carrying off the son of a neighbouring Czar, and you can not escape misfortune, unless you compensate for this step." The Han answered, "Just so; you are always discontented, and passed by them. He ordered the Czarowitz to be brought to him as soon as he should awake. The child seeing that they wished to carry him, said, "Do not trouble yourselves, I can walk. I will go myself." Having come into the Han's kibitka, he bowed to them all, first to the Han, and then to the rest on the right and left. He then placed himself before the Han with such

* As I find I am unable to give a translation sufficiently expressive of the sense of the original here, I shall set it down with a literal translation. Tak na desha gosudar Han, kak inako bit kak tebe n serdtse priidet; that is; So hope lord Han, how otherwise to be how to you on the heart will come.

a respectful, polite, and prudent mein, that he filled all the Kirguise and the Han himself with wonder. The Han however recollecting himself, spoke as follows; "Czarowitz Ivan! they say of you that you are a wise child, pray seek me a flower,—a rose without prikles that stings not. Your tutor will show you a wide field: I give you a term of three days." The child bowing again to the Han said, 'I hear,' and went out of the kabitka to his own home.

To be concluded in our next.

ON THE DIFFERENT VARIETIES OF SHEEP IN A WILD AND DOMESTIC STATE, REARED IN THE RUSSIAN EMPIRE, AND BY THE PASTORAL NATIONS FROM THE FRONTIERS OF EUROPE TO THOSE OF CHINA. *D. Guthrie*

Continued from vol. xvi. p. 312.

The fifth variety.

OVIS TAURICA.

THERE is still a breed of sheep in the *Crimea*, (lately brought back to its ancient appellation of *Tauride* by her imperial majesty,) which even the wide range of Dr Pallas's travels did not permit him to examine, but which he hopes to describe on his journey home from the new excursion he is going upon for the advancement of natural history in general, and the completion of his *Flora Rossica* in particular; a splendid work executed by the learned academici-an, at the sole expence of her imperial majesty, who presents it to the learned in Europe, as a mark of her attention to science, and its professors.

The doctor thinks it must be a variety of the stætopyga, or Boucharian sheep; but what we know for certain, and what makes it highly interesting is, that a valuable trade is carried on with its skin; as it furnishes the beautiful and high priced blue furs, in such great estimation as a winter dress for the nobility of Russia, Poland, and other northern countries. It is impossible to pass over the *blue* furs of the north, without calling to mind a race of sheep mentioned by Boethius and Sibbald, as inhabiting the island of Rona, and bearing a *blue fleece*; similar to what is so much prized here.

It might be worth the curiosity, if not the interests of your society, to inquire if any traces of the breed remain, on that or any other island of Scotland*.

* The ingenious writer is here led into a dilemma, from the equivocal meaning of the word *blue*, in the Scottish dialect of the English language, when applied to animals of this sort. Nothing is more common than to hear country men talk of *blue* horses; but a horse literally of a blue colour, in the strict meaning of the word, was never I believe seen in this country: at least I know that I have seen thousands of *blue* horses, as they are called; and these are all literally gray; consisting of mixed hairs black and white: when it has a reddish glance, it is called iron gray. The blue sheep of Scotland are precisely of the same sort. The fleece always consists of a mixture of white and black hairs having a bluish glance; as I have seen thousands of times.

On the other hand, the blue furs of Taurica here mentioned, or at least some furs which I have seen, are of a bright blue colour strictly so called, exactly of the same cast with the blue cloths of Europe that have been dyed with indigo; and I am convinced these have all been so dyed,—and that there is no sheep to be found any where that are naturally of that colour: at least I have never seen any such, or heard of any well authenticated fact to make me believe that there are any such. The blue sheep of Rona mentioned by Boethius, I have not

A second variety of sheep mentioned by the same authors, bearing a fleece composed of *wool and hair*, is probably that which has lately drawn so particularly the attention of your society for the melioration of British wool, as I understand that the fine woolly down, which seems to surpass every thing of the kind on your side Thibet, is hid by long hair which rises above it, and serves as a covering to the animal whilst deprived of its finer under coat; the festival of the island, must then be at sheep *pulling*, not at sheep *bearing* as in England.*

doubt were of the same kind with the sheep called blue at this day by the natives, of the kind above described, which are to be found in all the remote parts of Scotland I have visited, where large flocks of sheep are not kept, and where of course little attention is paid to the breed.

Edit.

* There is, I believe, no variety of sheep reared in any part of Britain among which there may not be found individuals whose fleece contains a mixture of hairs; nor is there any county, or any breed among which individual sheep may not be found that have no hair among the wool at all. In some places however hairy wool is common, and nearly universal, and in other places clean wool is equally general, and a hairy fleece a rarity.—In general, wherever the farmers have been for a long time past attentive to the quality of their wool, the hairy sort is rare, because they have taken care not to breed from that kind; and wherever no attention has been bestowed to the breed, hairy wool is very common.

In Shetland, from what I have heard and seen, hairy wool is common for no other reason than that they have hitherto bestowed no attention to their breed of sheep; but fortunately it is not *universal*, as some fine woolled sheep are still to be found there that have no hairs at all among their fleece. From all these facts, I am far from admitting, that hairy wool is a peculiar characteristic mark of distinction of any one breed of sheep whatever, though doubtless in some districts, and in some particular flocks in these districts, that kind of fleece abounds much more than in others.

Edit.

A third variety of sheep mentioned by the same old writers, and so much laughed at, was one with a yellow fleece, and teeth of the colour of gold. But, Mr Editor, as we find *two* of the three varieties do exist in nature, it is but fair, before we condemn our venerable authors as fabulous, to see if it is possible to account for such a phenomenon from natural causes.*

* In all the remote parts of Scotland and the isles, where sheep have been in a great measure neglected, and allowed to breed promiscuously, without any selection, there is to be found a prodigious diversity of colours; and among others dun sheep,—or those of a brownish colour tending to an obscure yellow, are not unfrequent. These I have often seen; and these, I have no doubt, are the yellow sheep of Boethius. But a bright yellow sheep, resembling the clear yellow colour obtained on pure white wool by means of weld, I never saw or heard of; and believe none such exist more than of the blue.

When any variety of these sheep becomes a favourite with a particular person, those of that colour are selected to breed from; and in this way it frequently happens that those of one colour begin to predominate in one place more than another. It is for this reason, and to save the trouble of dying, that the poor people in the Highlands propagate black, and russet, and brown, and other coloured sheep, more than in any country where the wool is regularly brought to market. In the isle of Man a breed of dun sheep is very common till this hour; and I have been told sheep of the same dun colour, are common in the Crimea.

Of all the variety of colours I have seen among these flocks, that of the *silver grey*, consisting of a mixture of pure white and black filaments is the most beautiful. Where the black is clear and shining, and the white pure, it has a very fine lustre and brilliancy. Mottled sheep, consisting of spots of different colours are to be found in Shetland. At Aislaby park in Yorkshire there is a breed of the mottled sheep which have been preserved there for a long while past as a curiosity. They are descended from a ewe and ram thus marked, that came originally from Andalusia in Spain. Their wool is very coarse

Edin!

The learned zoologist, Mr Pennant, mentions having found at Athol house on his Scotch tour, *the jaw of a sheep incrustated with gold coloured pyrites*, a mineral abounding in a valley close by, where he thinks were sheep to graze, *their teeth* might acquire the same incrustation. now Sir, I will venture to add, that if sheep were to be *folded* in this pyritical valley, some of the gold coloured particles might, without a miracle, adhere to their fleece, and produce a curious yellow glittering appearance which would not a little astonish the vulgar, and possibly transfer the story of the golden fleece from Colchis to Athol.

Dr Pallas on reading over the rough copy of this paper, made the following note at the bottom of this article.

A yellowish glossy tartar is found likewise on the teeth of the Kirguise sheep, and I think in all dry pasture grounds; but it is nothing like pyrites.*

I think with Pennant, Mr Editor, that the fourth variety mentioned by Boethius as inhabiting the island of Hirta; was very possibly the musimon or wild sheep; for he describes it as larger than the biggest he-goat, with a tail hanging almost to the

* This remark of the learned doctor perfectly coincides with my own observations on this head. The teeth of the greatest part of sheep become black when aged; but many of them are yellowish, though that tinge is evidently nothing pyritical; and is often seen on the teeth of sheep that feed where pyrites is rare, and vice versa.

ground, and horns as thick and longer than those of an ox.*

Conclusion.

In the paper thus presented to the society for the melioration of British wool, through the medium of the Bee, I have endeavoured to concentrate the whole of Dr Pallas's observations on the flocks of the pastoral nations (a few learned inquiries excepted, of which I have only given the result,) from the ample materials furnished by that liberal philosopher; and I think we may draw the following conclusions from the whole.

1st. That there is but *one species* of sheep, divided into a certain number of varieties, distinguished principally by the *tail*; as the doctor has found that all the *different species* mentioned by *authors* propagate together and produce *prolific* descendants; which refutes all idea of a specific difference.

* In the time of Boethius, men were very inaccurate observers of natural objects, and much disposed to catch at the marvellous; on which account, their descriptions cannot be relied upon, as those of naturalists in our day, when they speak of what they have seen. I have never found a fact except this here mentioned, which indicated, that the long tailed sheep were to be found, at an antient period, in Scotland. The native breeds of all the neglected parts of Scotland and the isles were certainly of the short tailed sorts. We can at this day almost trace every long tailed sheep that is now found in Scotland, from the southward. That breed seems to have been first reared in England. It is in general of a larger size than the short tailed sort. Possibly some coarse shaggy woolled breed, of the long tailed sheep, may have been brought to that island among the plunder from England, in some of the military expeditions so common in antient times; and may have propagated their kind there till the memory of their first introduction was lost.

Edit.

With regard to Wool.

2dly, That the first variety of Pallas, the Tscherkessian or long tailed, are the best *wool bearing sheep*, carrying naturally an woolly fleece without admixture of hair in all countries where it has been found; except always in the extremes of heat and cold, which turn wool to hair in every variety of the animal.

3dly, That next to the Tscherkessian, the mixed breed he has named Boucharian, promises the greatest advantages with regard to *fleece*, if managed with skill and attention by the able and industrious Europeans.

This variety, the 4th and last of our author, is distinguished by a *tail*, thick and fat above, but long and lean below.

4thly, That the Russian sheep which constitutes his 2d variety, distinguished by a short meagre *tail*, are a small breed carrying wool of the very coarsest-kind, only fit for the drefs of the northern peasants in a state of vassalage; although climate, care, and pasture, seem to meliorate it very considerably.

5thly that the large fat rumped, or fat tailed sheep, the variety reared from the frontiers of Europe, to those of China, by almost all the pastoral nations, and the whole of the Nomades; and that which seems to be the most universally reared over the whole globe, as an article of food, from its size and fatness, ranks the lowest with regard to *fleece*; as it carries only a species of coarse wool mixed with hair, in all countries where it has been found: and even that very inferior fleece is so matted together, as to

be with difficulty carded, if at all capable of that operation. However that last circumstance observed by Dr Pallas in the Kirguise sheep, may be owing to some local cause.

6thly, That a temperate climate is the most favourable for the production of wool; as extremes of both heat and cold have a tendency to convert it into *bair*, or at least into a species of wool so extremely coarse, as not to be easily distinguished from it.*

8thly, That saline bitter pastures, have great influence in augmenting the size of sheep, as well as in fattening them; at the same time that such pastures have a particular tendency to produce the species of *soft oily grease*, which forms more especially on the rump and tail of the *steatopyga* variety of sheep, and is different from *suet*, the kind of fat common to ruminating animals.

9thly, That leguminous Alpine plants, especially the *astragal* †, and a shrub resembling the *robinia*.

* Of the effect of climate on the wool of sheep, more may be said than could properly come within the compass of a note. Perhaps this may afford a subject for a separate dissertation. Some facts respecting this subject are ascertained with tolerable accuracy by experiment; others still are doubtful, and require further elucidation, so that I suspect we must here suspend our decision for a little. *Edit.*

† With regard to the nutritious plants mentioned above by my learned friend, I can say nothing of the shrub resembling a species of *robinia*, as he does not name it; but I believe you have none of the genus to which he compares it. However, surely the mountains of Scotland must be well stored with Alpine plants in general, to which he attributes so much merit; and as for the *astragal*, which he singles

paragana, when aided by a temperate climate and exercise, have a tendency to produce the largest sized domestic sheep the doctor saw in his travels, even equal to the musimon or wild sheep, which lives and feeds like the flocks of the hills of Dauria, that resemble it so much in bulk. But that these plants have no tendency to form the *soft oily fat* mentioned above, which the doctor thinks is only produced by saline bitter pastures.*

out, and that sheep choose for food in a state of nature, whilst their instinct is not counteracted by acquired taste, you have three species of it, viz. *Astragalus glycyphyllos*, or wild liquorice, *A. arenarius*, or purple mountain wilk wort, and *A. wralensis*, or silken astragalus.

Arcticus.

* The favourite food of the sheep according to the accurate remarks of the great Swedish botanist and his disciples, is the *festuca ovina*, or sheeps fescue grass, and on which they fatten very quickly. This plant is common in dry pastures in Scotland, and certainly could be still much more so by cultivation.

Plants hurtful to Sheep.

After mentioning plants which are eminently salutary to sheep, it certainly will not be foreign to the subject to point out those that are poisonous from the same great authority. Many marsh plants are so, 1st, As the *anthericum ossifragum*, or marsh asphodel. 2d, The *equisetum*, or horse tail. 3d, The *ranunculus flammula*, or lesser spear wort. 4th, The *myosotis aquatica*, or water mouse ear; and 5th, The *kalmia angustifolia*, and *latifolia*, the narrow and broad leaved kalmia, two American plants, the most deadly of all sheep poisons.

Of these poisonous plants, the first is very common in moorish grounds all over Scotland.

Of the 2d, you have 6 species of marsh plants; but which is meant by the Linnæan school is difficult to guess; however there is little danger of sheep meddling with what is hard enough to polish wood. The 3d. is common with you by the sides of lakes and ditches; but a Highland

10thly, That much depends on the care and skill of the shepherd, to meliorate the *fleece*, augment the *size*, and correct the *form* of sheep, *even to that of the horns*, by pasture, exercise, and above all by the judicious choice of rams, on which much depends; as not alone beauty and other desirable qualities, but deformity and even disease may be propagated and handed down through many generations.

11thly, And lastly, I think one might almost hazard an opinion from Dr Pallas's information, that by care and attention to the fleece of lambs, of the Tcherkessian, Boucharian, and Tauric varieties, from their birth to a certain age, a valuable fur trade might be carried on with the north and China, where they are in such high estimation with the rich and great, as a winter dress, even more than our finest Siberian furs, at least in Russia and Poland.

Nay even common sheep skins, however coarse, with the care and skill applied to every manufacture in Great Britain, would soon set at defiance all northern competition, and come to the widest market of any article of commerce; as every peasant has an outer winter garb, and most of the superior classes as a morning gown, have at least one sheep skin

man's blister, seems as little tempting to sheep, as the joiner's polisher.

The 4th is common on the sides of rivulets and lakes in Scotland. And as to the 5th, I hope it will never be brought over to Scotland, even for the botanic garden, as we are to credit Linnæus, that several foreign plants have planted themselves over a whole province, the seeds being carried by the winds from such gardens as they were introduced into for curiosity.

Arcticus.

thide coarser or finer in every northern country, wherein the climate requires furs.

I must own however that I am speaking here, (I mean, with regard to the fabrication of sheep skins with the wool on them in Great Britain,) with little or no knowledge of the subject; as the price of wool, hides &c. there, must determine the expediency of the measure: but if I am to judge of the success of one British manufactory by that of another, with possibly 50 per cent against it, on the side of the Russians, my speculation will not appear without some foundation. I allude to the curious article of iron purchased originally from this country, and afterwards sold here manufactured, after paying so many duties and charges on both sides the water, *cheaper* than the natives can afford it; nay this is not confined to the finer articles, for even British iron railing, is sold in Petersburg cheaper and neater than it can be made in this city from the original iron, although the Russians have so great a sum in their favour, if all the charges are reckoned up, from the exportation of the rough, to the sale of the manufactured iron. Surely I say, judging from such an example of the wonderful effects of industry and skill, one would think, that sheep skins, the *produce* of Great Britain, might at least come to this market with the advantage which superior skill and dressing would give them, over the native manufactories, and that alone, in my opinion, were even the prices equal, would be sufficient to give them such a preference, as would send them through all the north;

58 *on delays in the court of Session. Sept. 11.*
 for the durability of a pelice or shube is a great object to the peasant, and indeed in a less degree to all classes, whilst one half of the sheep skins manufactured in the north, are partly rotten when brought to market, being burnt up, I believe, by a quantity of calcareous earth (probably in a caustic state,) with which every pore is filled. In short, it appears to me that a much better mode of dressing, at least the common sheep skin furs, might be fallen upon, than what is at present practised in Russia; and that would give such a superiority to the new manufactory, as must be attended with a great sale; for I regard such an improvement, as a real desideratum in that branch of trade.

ON THE DELAYS INCIDENT TO THE COURT OF SESSION.

To the Lord President of the Court of Session.

M LETTER II. * *Noenal*

MY LORD,

IF the interlocutors were reduced to two, upon each point, and all dispute upon counter-claims was precluded, one might think it only remained to decide at once upon the justice of the pleas of the parties, and so terminate the dispute. But the case is quite otherwise; and there are many more bars in the way of a speedy decision.

* Continued from vol. xvi. p. 280.

The party complaining of an interlocutor, muſt lodge his representation, or preſent his reclaiming petition, within the ſpace of a fortnight, otherwiſe the interlocutor becomes final. But there is no ſuch neceſſity to lodge answers within any given time.

In the outer-house there is not even an *amand* impoſed ; but barely an order given, to lodge answers within ten days or a fortnight ;* and I have known the beſt part of a ſeſſion loſt before ſuch an order could be enforced, by dint of repeated enrollments.

A defender has uſually nothing to gain by the iſſue of the cauſe, and when he happens to be reſpondent, delay enſues ; and it ſometimes becomes a new queſtion, whether the old one ſhall proceed or not, beſides giving riſe to illiberal reflections between the parties, as to the reaſon of the delay, and ſo producing ill humour and additional vexation and expence through all the after ſtages of the cauſe.

An *amand* is by no means an adequate remedy ; and the ready compliance with the orders of the inner-house is juſtly aſcribed, not to the *amand*, but to your Lordſhip's vigilance, and the fear of your diſpleaſure.

An order to answer, will always be eluded more or leſs, until the reſpondent is cut off, from even the hope of delay. And therefore I would humbly pro-

* One honourable judge only, is in uſe to annex a penalty to his order, and it generally proves unavailing. It goes to the poor ; and the taſk is invidious to inſiſt upon its being paid.

60 *on delays in the court of Session. Sept. 11.*
 pose a regulation (like the act of sederunt 26th November 1718,) precluding the possibility of receiving answers, unless they are lodged within fourteen days, and so sending the cause to be advised, as it then stands. I know not of any disadvantage that this would be attended with, unless to diminish the emolument of the members of court, whom I formerly mentioned. And as every new regulation to save time has that tendency, it is surely worth while trying to make up their loss in some other way. If the endurance of a lawsuit could be shortened one half, the litigants could well afford to pay double the fees of court that they do at present.

It is to be regretted, that in many cases of delay, no such remedy as I have proposed regarding answers can well be devised. An order to condescend: to produce a material paper: to give in a state of accounts: to make up an order of ranking, and other orders of various kinds, often produce astonishing delays, and it is very difficult to propose a remedy: but such orders shall be the subject of a future letter. I am &c.
 LENTULUS.

ON VARIOUS WAYS OF MAKING MONEY.

For the Bee.

God made man upright, but he hath found out many inventions.

I AM an old domine, Mr Editor, who have toiled hard for fourteen hours a day, during forty years

1793.

ways of making money.

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past, in hopes of getting some little thing laid up for a sore heel in my old age; but in vain: for after having got my old wig new dressed, my clothes put into the best trim I could, to make a few visits during the vacance, and a pair of new shoes to carry me along the road, I find there is no danger that my pockets will be worn out with the weight of my purse.

It was an old practice with my grandmother, who lived to a good old age, to try to discover her fortune by the *sortes virgillianæ*; that is, when she wished to know what would be the result of any arduous enterprise, she used to open her bible at random, and observe what was the first sentence that caught her eye; from the tenor of which she augured the success of her plan. Though I believe in no such heathenish tricks, I learned such a practice of doing this when young, that I sometimes, even yet, do it by a sort of involuntary impulse. The sentence I have chosen as a motto turned up thus to me this morning, as I was meditating upon the plans I should adopt for bettering my fortune in future. But what *invention*, thinks I, can I fall upon for this purpose? Now, Sir, I had been so often foiled in every attempt I had made, that I could not think of any thing that had the smallest prospect of success; and I walked forward ruminating upon the subject, as I went to breakfast with a worthy clergyman, who always receives me with great kindness on my annual circuit. At breakfast he kindly invited me to spend the day with him, observing that I should be in time enough tomorrow to the place of my next

visit. The invitation was too flattering for me to refuse it ; and I, with much satisfaction to myself, consented.

While my friend was shaving, to accompany me in an excursion to see the improvements in his glebe, I took up a book to glance at. It was the eighth volume of your Bee ; and as chance would have it, the first thing that turned up to me there, was the letter of Juridicus to Mr Semple. (Bee vol. 8. p. 318.) which was exactly to my purpose. Verily said I to myself, this man hath found out one, and not one of the worst of the “ many inventions ” for making money. What a dunce of a fellow am I that I should not have thought of this. You are right, said I, Mr Juridicus, for it is only two days since I was hospitably entertained, almost with a royal profusion, by a man who lived in a stile of sumptuosity that I had never before witnessed, whose generous C—rs a very short time ago, thankfully accepted of two shillings, or half a crown a pound, in full of all demands ; no doubt from the noble principle that they might enable him to live in future, not like a gentleman, which he did before ; but like a nobleman, which he now does ! Great is the magnanimity and generosity of the British nation !!!

Well, but thinks I, this invention, excellent as it is, will not suit me. I cannot get even credit for a good new coat ; I must therefore think of some other invention. The thought has not gone out of my head all day. In the course of my meditations, I recollected that once upon a time, now a good while ago, we, poor devils of schoolmasters, thinking to get

a small fund for our widows, collected our mites, and put them into the hand of a *good* man, to attend our interest in parliament on that business; but this *worthy* man, after hearing how things went above, and no doubt agreeing in opinion with your correspondent Thunderproof, that that house was "no better than it should be," judged that should the money be laid out there, it would only be "like butter in the black dog's haws," and wisely thought it might be much more beneficially applied to *another purpose*; so, after having lodged the money safely, — in his own pocket, he set out for *the land of promise*; where, by the help of our *mites*, it has proved to him a land overflowing with milk and honey. Yea, verily said I again to myself, this is also one of the "many inventions," for making money, that man hath found out, and a good invention too.

One thought brings on another. REFORM said I to myself, is an excellent word for collecting gulls together; and as no kind of *reform*, you know, can be brought about without money, and money cannot be applied without somebody to collect it. Now, might not a man who has a tolerable noddle for inventions, contrive to sound an alarm,—point out in strong language the necessity of a reform of one kind or other, it matters not what;—invite people to associate, in districts, in cities, in parishes, for this purpose;—get himself appointed secretary, to whom all collections must be sent; and then, if the sums levied be abundant, - - he is a dunce indeed who does not know what to do with it. I then recollected the association about the bill of rights, and remember

that considerable sums were collected for that purpose in our parish; but what became of them I know not, for I was not so much interested in that business as the other; but perhaps some of your readers can tell. I recollect also many other collections for reforms of various kinds. Would not this be an excellent invention for me, to try if I could be made secretary general to some reforming society? Can you help me to such a thing, Mr Editor? If you can, I will endeavour to befriend you when I go to America. But I fear I must get a better coat, and a new wig before I can put in my claim; for a poor looking fellow, like the apothecary in Hamlet, excites alarms at the very sight of him: and how to get my belly up, and my cheeks blowsy, I know not: so that I fear, however excellent the invention may be for others, it will not altogether suit my circumstances.

After having tired myself with writing the above, and ruminating upon it, I took up a book to amuse myself a little. It was travels in North America by a P. Campbell. In the course of my reading, I met with the following anecdote, which shews that this same invention is also known in America. Whether these our obedient *children* have learnt it from us, their loving *parents*, I shall not take it upon me to say; but if they have learnt it from some of our emigrants, they are not unapt scholars. I transcribe from the 312th page of that book.

“ It however revived in my mind a story I was told that happened in the Jerseys, much about the time I was there, and seemed well authenticated, of

a set of religious enthusiasts, who were in use of assembling in a certain house of worship in the neighbourhood of Elizabeth Town, and whose tenets ran much on the notion of the devil being fond of money. This article in their creed was admitted by all, as also that he made much more use of money to bribe Christians, than Indians; which was clear from the former being greater worshippers of the Golden Calf, than the latter, wholly owing to his machinations. A wiser head than the rest suggested the idea of bribing the devil himself with money, to prevent his working on the passions of any of their sect. The scheme was highly applauded, and approved of as the best that could be devised; and the projector of it himself, requested to set about collecting sums of money, adequate to the business, which he had the humanity to do without losing much time, lest the devil should be at work on them in the interim; and to enforce his arguments, he told them that each man's share should be placed to his own account; and as they all knew the devil was not to be put off with a trifle, he hoped they would contribute accordingly.

“Contributions went on liberally; and no inconsiderable sum was collected, with which he went off, to bribe the devil, as already said, with the consent and approbation of all concerned; but whether he found him worse to please than he expected, and did not get his business effected, was not known when I was there; but so it was, that he had not returned, though he had then been two or three months away upon that business.”

Now Sir, could I meet with a set of fanatics, my long lantern-jaws would accord very well with the character I should there have to act. But the misery is, that nature has thrown into my countenance such a dash of facetious humour, that I cannot for my life assume these hypocritical grimaces for two minutes together ; so that here also I should be foiled. The upshot of the whole is, that I suspect I am not one of the men who have “ found out many inventions ” to make money ; so that I fear I must remain even as God made me, upright and poor to the end of the chapter : and I much doubt I shall never visit *the land of promise*, which overfloweth with milk and honey ; nor have I any ambition to visit Botany Bay ; so that for aught I can see, I must even remain as I began

D—————*ne*,

A POOR DOMINE.

Aug. 20. 1793.

READING MEMORANDUMS.

LET us give up our fig leaved theories, and betake ourselves to the continuation of the experimental system of the great Roger Bacon, and his more fortunate successor the lord of Verulam.

The result of this noble and satisfactory system will be the increase of human happiness, and the confession of every reasonable soul, that to be busy, and useful, and virtuous, and pious, is to be happy and truly beneficial to society, for which we were originally intended by our bountiful Creator.

POETRY.

SIR, To the Editor of the Bee.

In one of the early volumes of the Bee I was pleased to see some remarks on pastoral poetry; and was in hopes these might have been continued, but regret that they have not. I agree with the writer of these in thinking that there are very few good specimens of pastoral poetry existing, and that these few are to be found chiefly among the rustic compositions of the unlettered muse; for there only we meet with nature free from affectation, the great bane of modern pastorals. I beg leave to send you a specimen of pastoral poetry, that pleased me very much; and will be glad if you give it a place in the Bee. It is perfectly devoid of those nauseating *common places* that so frequently recur in almost every eclogue of modern times. I need hardly add that it is taken from the poems of Rowley, with the orthography a little modernised. A.

THE HAY FIELD, *A moral eclogue.*

WOULDST thou see nature pure and unarray'd?

Visit the lowly cottage of the hind;

His art (if any) home-spun and rough made,

Disguises not the workings of his mind.

To thee whom simple nature's lore can charm,

These words I send, heard late in village-farm.

MAN. But whither fair maid do ye go?

Oh where do ye bend your way?

I will be told whither ye go,

I will not be answered nay.

WOMAN. I go to the dale, down to Robin and Nell,

To help 'em at making of hay.

MAN Sir, Robert, the parson, has hired me there,

Come, come, let us hasten away; [cheer.]

We'll work and we'll sing, and we'll make merry

As long as the long summer's day.

WOMAN. How hard is it always to work?

How full is our sad state of care?

Lady Bridget who lies in the kirk,

Deckt with jewels and gold,

Was of the same mold;—

Why than ours was her fortune more fair?

MAN. Lo, our good priest is at the gate.

Ever ready to counsel his neighbour,

He'll tell why, whilst some are so great,

We are doom'd without ceasing to labour,

SIR ROBERT *the priest* [meditating alone]

The sultry sun is in his mid career;

A seed of life from ev'ry beam he sheds:

Yet, while his piercing rays the grass make sear,

See! the sever'd flowret withers o'er the meads!

Lost its rich fragrance! lost its vermeil bloom!—

When sever'd by death's dart, such is the gen'ral doom.

MAN.

All-a-boon, Sir priest! all-a-boon!
 I beseech thee now say unto me,
 Why Sir Geoff'ry the knight, with his lady so bright,
 So rich and so happy should be,
 Whilst myself and my mate, in wretched estate,
 Must in labour and drudgery all our days waste,
 Yet never of plenty or honours shall taste?

PRIEST.

Turn thine eyes round upon this new mown lee;
 With look attentive view the wither'd dale;
 Here to thy question thou'lt fit answer see;
 This faded flow'r suggests a moral tale.
 Late fresh it blow'd, it flourished and did well,
 Proudly disdaining the short neighb'ring green;
 Yet now its pride is humbled;—lo! where fell
 Its faded glories on the sun burnt plain!
 Did not its gaudy look, whilst it did stand,
 To pluck it in its prime move some dread hand?
 Such is the way of life:—the great man's wealth
 Tempts ruffian violence his peace to wound:
 If thou art blest'd with bread, content, and health,
 Believe the truth;—none is more happy found.
 Thou workst?—well can that a trouble be?
 Sloth more would tire thee than the roughest day:
 Couldst thou the inmost soul of man but see,
 Full well thou'dst be convinc'd of what I say.
 But let me hear thy way of life; and then
 Hear thou from me the lives of other men,

MAN.

I rise up with the sun,
 Working the live long day;
 And when my work is done,
 I tune some roundelay;
 I follow the plough-tail
 With a jug of good ale.
 On ev'ry holiday
 With the Minstrils am I seen,
 Chearful, footing it away,
 With maidens on the green:
 But oh! I wish to be more great
 In honour, title, and estate.

PRIEST.

Hast thou not seen a tree upon a hill,
 Whose tow'ring branches to the skies ascend?
 Hast thou not seen it by the roots up-torn,
 When some fierce tempest earth and heav'n doth rend?
 While lowly shrubs that in the vale delight,
 Unhurt, unshaken bide the pelting storm?
 Such is this world's estate:—the man of might
 Is tempest chaff; his woe great as his form:
 Thyself, now a low shrub of small account,
 Woud'st fiercer feel the wind, if higher thou cou'd'st mount.

THE SOLITUDES.

Communicated by Senex.

In compliance with the request of our respectable correspondent Senex, we do not hesitate to insert the following reflections, though sensible that to some of our readers they will not be altogether acceptable: but to such as have had the tender ties of friendship and congenial feelings disunited by death, and other cross accidents of life, so as to give the susceptible mind that serious cast which looks forward to a state of future existence, as to a resting place, where care and sorrows shall be for ever banished, it will excite a voluptuous flow of tender ideas which are ineffably pleasing.

SOLITARY fields where nature is silent, buried in dismal horror! burning plains where melancholy dwells! frightful rocks! hide the world from my view; my wearied soul sighs for repose. The universe, my heart, every thing is like a desert:—all is calm like the tomb.

O thou, my lyre! who by thy harmonious sounds canst render peace to the soul! thou who wert wont to sing the fleeting sorrows of my youth! thou art now silent, and liest neglected in the dust: still make these savage wilds resound with thy tender plaints! And thou, spark of eternal light, O Sun! conceal thy sad rays: here all is frightful!

What majestic divinity descends slowly from the hill, with downcast eyes, and plunged in a deep reverie? Her beauty shines through her sadness; her forehead is crowned with cypress; the zephyr gently waves her flowing hair: she advances slowly with a celestial serenity; the deserts even become beautiful at her approach. She resembles the inhabitants of Olympus, or thee, O fair Amelia. Young man, know the muse destined by heaven to console ten-

der hearts. Not her who sighed formerly the weak complaints of Ovid, and the soft griefs of Tibullus, but she who, full of sublime gravity, animated the immortal *nights* of the British bard.

Come O muse ! animate me also in my turn. But alas ! you fly from me. - - - - Agreeable error ! return. - - - - I still find myself alone in the midst of the gloomy plains.—The muse has disappeared. But would she have consoled me !—me whom wisdom herself cannot console.

Wisdom ! earthly wisdom, what art thou ? An illusion of a few instants : a pompous dream where the ideal Irus is seated on the throne of kings ; but when Aurora, from the bosom of the blushing clouds descends upon the smiling earth—when the darkness is dispelled, the dream flies away and leaves only a beggar in place of a king ; in the place of a sage, nothing but a fool.

Like to those despicable warriors who before the battle insult the fugitives, and menace the enemy from afar ; but who, when he is near, know only to tremble and to fly ; thou darest to brave the evils to come, and in thy pride to boast that thou wilt conquer grief. But alas ! thou fliest at the aspect of misfortunes' present. The sage discovers then what he is - - - a man ; that which he will be - - - - unanimated dust.

Unanimated clay ! And thou, O lovely Serena ! art thou then no more than dust ! . . . The tender tears of friendship will awaken thee no more ! Thy sleep will endure till the sound of the last trumpet shall assemble us again. Thou sleepest ! . . . No, thou dost not sleep. Elevated above the luminous clouds,

thou lookest down upon this earth,—thou hearest my moan. It touches thee. . . . But thy compassion bath nothing of dolorous. It is altogether celestial. Yes, thou livest ! . . . It is I who am dead . . . Dead to the blandishments of pleasure . . . Dead to the love of glory which formerly excited me to wake in silence by the light of the nocturnal lamp, surrounded by the writings of those immortal sages, who still, even after their decease, instruct the earth.—*They* still live, and I am no more.—When ! O when shall come that dread hour ; the hour of verité, which shall free my soul from this body of dust ! Vast solitude ! then I shall gently repose upon thy bosom, forgotten in the peaceful earth.—May no inscription warn the traveller who I was ! but may some young man, whose heart is susceptible of the most tender emotions, one day shed a tear upon my grave Let the rest of mortals remain ignorant of the value of my heart ; the soul enlarged from its prison shall take its flight into the heavens.

Inhabitants of the celestial spheres ! invisible companions of men ! ye whom heaven has destined to watch over virtue ! Angels ! Genii ! what name should I give thee ? Perhaps touched with my grief, at this moment you surround me.—You count my tears,—you communicate one to the other the emotions with which they inspire thee—Etherial substances ! speak,—Is not Serena among you ? That tender friend whom death hath snatched from me, is she not now charged by heaven to be my tutelar Angel ? Celestial spirit ! O divine Serena, no longer refuse to unvail thyself to my impatient desires. This earthly and mortal eye, cannot, it is true, perceive thy aerian body. Come, nevertheless, render thy beauty visible to my perception. Appear in this desert ; and let thy presence become to me a heaven.

But cease ! O my soul to bewilder thyself—Let not a rash flight carry thee into the regions of delirium ! It is enough to agitate and deceive thyself.—Useless desires, disappear . May tranquil wisdom descend and take thy place in my afflicted heart ! . . . Repose accompanies wisdom. Thou, whom the hearts of celestial spirits call by a name unknown on the earth, but whom men formerly called Serena ! Happy soul ! thou no longer feel'st the disappointments of humanity. Separated from us by an immense interval,—placed above the inconstant scenes of this life, thou livest now in a world where the limits of joy and of grief never interfere,—where vice and virtue are never confounded,—where tears never mix with pleasure,—where the excess of voluptuousness no more becomes a poignant grief.

O world ! what art thou ? A deceitful theatre. What are the different states of man ? Parts which providence has distributed to them as if to try them. Happy is he who has well performed his part ! Death draws the curtain. A new theatre awaits us, where the greatest parts will be acted by those who have worthily filled the lesser ones on this earth. The world has not known thee, O Serena ! nor what ought to be the greatness of thy part !

To be continued.

SIR

To the Editor of the Bee.

Professor Anderson

I AM neither a scholar nor a collector of curiosities ; but as I have often, in the course of my travels through Scotland, which I usually visit once a year, been entertained and instructed by your Miscellany, which frequently falls in my way ; I am willing to contribute my mite

for the entertainment of others, in return for the favours I have received from them. If you think the following inscription, which pleased me from its plain simplicity, will be agreeable to your readers, it is much at your service; and in that case I shall think the trouble I have taken in transcribing it abundantly repaid. It is written on a plain slab of white marble placed in the front of a building erected by a taylor for charitable purposes in Stirling. What struck me as a singularity in this case, is that I am informed the gentleman who wrote the inscription has dedicated a great part of his time to the perfecting military engines of destruction. How he can reconcile his theory with his practice I pretend not to say. He is not a clergyman as I am assured; for if he had, the case, you know, would not have been uncommon. Above the inscription is the figure of a large pair of tailor's scissars.

A RIDER.

INSCRIPTION.

[Place of the scissars.]

In order to relieve the distress of useful members of society, the ground within this wall, with the adjoining hospital and lands for supporting it, were given to the tradesmen of Stirling, in the year 1530 by Robert Spittal who was taylor to king James the fourth of Scotland. He likewise gave part of his wealth for building useful bridges in this neighbourhood. Forget not, reader that the scissars of this man do more honour to human nature than the swords of conquerors!

THE INDIAN COTTAGE,

A TALE.

Continued from page 38.

When the Englishman had done eating, the paria presented him with a coal to light his pipe, and having also lighted his own, he made a sign to his wife who brought, and set upon the mat, two cups made of the shell of the cocoa nut, and a large calabash full of punch, which she had made during supper, of water, arrack, and the juice of the sugar cane.

While they smoked and drank alternately, says the doctor to the Indian, 'I believe you are one of the happiest men I have ever met, and consequently one of the wisest. Permit me to ask you some questions. How are you so calm in the midst of such a terrible storm? You are sheltered only by a tree, and trees attract lightening.' 'Never,' replied the Indian, 'has the lightening struck the banian fig tree.' 'That is very curious,' replied the doctor; 'the reason must be, that this tree, like the laurel, is possessed of negative electricity.' 'I do not understand you,' rejoined the paria; 'but my wife believes it is because the God Brahma one day sheltered himself under its foliage: for my part, I think that God having given the banian fig tree in these stormy climes, a very close foliage, and arched branches to shelter the human species from the tempest, he does not permit them to be struck with lightening under its covert.' 'Your answer is very pious,' replied the doctor; 'thus it is your trust in God that gives you tranquillity of mind. A good conscience gives more courage and calmness of mind than the most extensive views of science. Tell me, I pray you, of what cast are you; for you are not of any of those of the Indians, since no Indian will have any intercourse with you. In my list of the learned casts that I was to consult on my route, I never observed that of the parias. In what district of India is your pagoda?' 'Every where,' replied the paria: 'my pagoda is the universe. I adore its author at the rising of the sun, and I bless him at its setting. Instructed by misfortune, I never refuse my assistance to any one more unhappy than myself. I endeavour to render happy my wife and child, and even my

cat and my dog. I await death at the termination of life as a sweet sleep at the close of day." "From what book have you drawn these principles?" said the doctor. "From that of nature, replied the Indian; I know no other." "Ah! that is a great book, said the Englishman! but who taught you to read it?" "Misfortune, replied the paria; being of a cast reputed infamous in my own country, unable to be an Indian, I have made myself a man; rejected by society, I have fled for refuge to nature." "But in your solitude you have at least some books?" replied the doctor. "Not one, said the paria. I can neither read nor write." "You have saved yourself the uneasiness of many a painful doubt, said the doctor, rubbing his forehead: for my part, I have been sent from England, my native country, in search of truth among the learned of many nations, with a view to enlighten them, and to render them happier; but after many vain researches, and very grave disputes, I concluded that the search for truth is folly, because when one has found it he knows not to whom he can impart it without making himself many enemies. Speak to me with sincerity, are not you of my opinion?" "Though I am only an illiterate person, replied the paria, since you permit me to give my opinion, I shall give it frankly; I think that every man is obliged to seek the truth, for the sake of his own happiness; otherwise he will be covetous, ambitious, addicted to superstition, wicked, and worthless; nay even a cannibal, according to the prejudices, or the interest of those with whom he has been bred up."

The doctor, who was still thinking on the three questions which he had proposed to the chief of the pandicts, was charmed with the paria's answer. "Since you believe, says he to him, that every man is obliged to seek the truth, tell me what means one ought to use in order to find it; for our senses deceive us, and our reason bewilders us still more. Reason is quite different in different persons; and, I believe, it is at bottom only the particular interest of each of them: this I take to be the cause why it is so variable in the world. There are not two religions, two nations, two tribes, two families; what am I saying? there are not two individuals that think exactly alike. With what sense ought one then to search for truth, if even the understanding cannot be of service in the investigation?" "I believe replied the paria, that it is with simplicity of heart. The senses and the judgment may be beguiled; but a simple, a sincere and honest heart, though it may be deceived, never deceives."

"Your answer is profound, said the doctor. One must search after truth with his heart, not with his understanding. Men all feel in the

same manner; and they reason differently, because the principles of truth are founded in nature, but the consequences which they deduce from these depend upon their own interest. It is with a single heart therefore that one ought to seek for truth: for a single heart never pretends to understand, or to believe what it does not. It never assents to impose upon itself, nor afterwards to impose upon others; thus a single heart far from being weak, like that of most men seduced by their different interests, is strong, fitted to investigate truth, and to preserve it when found." "You have expressed my idea much better than I could have done myself, replied the paria. Truth is like the dew of heaven, to preserve it pure, one must gather it with a pure cloth and put it in a clean vessel."

"It is very well said, honest friend, replied the Englishman, but a still more difficult question remains to be solved. Where must one seek truth? A single heart depends on ourselves, but truth depends on others. Where shall we find it, if those who surround us are seduced by their prejudices, or corrupted by their interest, as they generally are? I have travelled among various nations; I have ransacked their libraries; I have consulted their learned men; and I have found nothing but contradictions, doubts, and opinions; a thousand times more varied than their languages. If therefore truth is not to be found in the most celebrated depositaries of human knowledge, where shall we go to seek it? What purpose will it serve to have a single heart among men who have a false understanding and a corrupt heart?" "I should suspect the truth itself, replied the paria, if it depended upon men, if I received it by their means only; it is not among them that one must seek it; it is in nature. Nature is the source of all that exists. Her language is not difficult to be understood, and variable, like that of men in their books. Men make books, but nature makes things. To rest the foundation of truth on a book is as if one founded it on a picture, or on a statue, which can prove interesting only to one country, and which the hand of time alters every day. Every book is the work of a man, but nature is the work of God." "You are right, replied the doctor; nature is the source of natural truths: but where is for example, the source of historical truths, if it be not in books. How shall we do then to assure ourselves at present of the truth of an event that happened two thousand years ago? Those who have transmitted it to us, were they free from prejudice, and party spirit? Had they a single heart? Besides even the books that transmit them to us, do not they stand in need of transcribers, of printers, of commentators, of

translators? And these people, do they never alter the truth in a greater, or less degree? As you well observe, a book is only the work of a man. It is necessary then to give up all historical truth, since it can reach us only by men liable to error.' "What connection, said the Indian, has the knowledge of past events with our happiness? The history of what is, is the history of what hath been, and of that which shall be hereafter?"

'Very well said the Englishman, but you will grant that moral truths are necessary to human happiness. How then shall we find these in nature. There the animals make war upon, kill and devour each other; even the elements are at war with each other; will not men act in the same manner?' Oh no! replied the good paria, but each man will find the rule of his conduct in his own heart, if his heart be single. Nature has there implanted this law, "*Never do to others, what you would not wish them to do to you.*" 'It is true, replied the doctor she has regulated their interests with regard to each other; but religious truths, how shall we discover them among the different traditions; and the different modes of worship which divide the nations?' "In nature, too, replied the paria: if we consider her with a single heart, we will see God there, in his power, in his wisdom, and in his goodness; and as we are weak, ignorant, and miserable, we have here a-bundant reason to engage us to adore him, to pray to him, and to love him, during our whole life, without disputing."

'Admirable! rejoined the Englishman; but, at the same time, tell me, when one has discovered the truth, ought it not to be imparted to others? If you publish it, you will be persecuted by a vast number of people who live by maintaining the contrary error, by maintaining that this error itself is the truth, and that whatever tends to destroy it is itself erroneous.'

"It is necessary, replied the paria, to impart the truth to those who have a single heart, that is to say, to the virtuous who are in quest of it, and not to the wicked who reject it. Truth is a choice pearl, and the wicked a crocodile who cannot admit it into his ears, because he has none. If you throw a pearl before a crocodile, instead of adorning himself with it, he will devour it, or he will break his teeth upon it, and through fury fall upon you." 'I have only one objection to make, said the Englishman: it follows as a consequence from what you have said, that men are condemned to error, though truth be necessary to their happiness; for since they persecute those who tell it them, who is the teacher that will dare to instruct them?' "He,

replied the paria, who himself persecutes men in order to instruct them; misfortune." 'Ha! for once, pupil of nature, replied the Englishman, I fancy you are mistaken. Misfortune throws men into superstition. It casts down the heart and spirit of a man. It renders a man unfeeling and mean spirited. Men are unhappy in proportion as they are low, credulous, and mean.' "Because they are not unhappy enough, replied the paria; misfortune resembles the black mountain of Bember in the confines of the burning kingdom of Lahore, while you ascend, you see before you barren rocks only; but when you are got to the summit you see the sky over your head, and at your feet the kingdom of Cachemire,"

'Charming and just comparison, replied the doctor: in life indeed each has his mountain to climb. Yours, virtuous hermit, must have been very rugged, for you are raised to an elevation far above all the men I have ever known. You have then been very unhappy, have you?'

(The philosopher then enquires why his cast was so much detested in India, and receives answers that show at once the extreme absurdity of the reason, and the misery to which the outcast parias are reduced in consequence of these groundless prejudices. He then thus proceeds.)

'But, says the doctor, how did you find the means of subsistence, being thus rejected by all society?' "At first, said the Indian, I said to myself, if every body is thine enemy, be thou thine own friend. Thy misfortune is not above the powers of man. However heavy be the rain, the little bird receives only one drop at a time. I strayed in the woods, and along the banks of rivers seeking food; but I there most frequently found nothing but some wild fruits, and I had reason to be afraid of ferocious beasts. Thus I became sensible that nature had made almost nothing for a solitary individual, and that she had connected my existence with that society which pushed me from its bosom.

"I then frequented the desolated plains, of which there are many in India, and I there always met with some vegetable or other, fit for food, that had survived the ruin of those who had cultivated it. I travelled, in this manner, from province to province, assured of finding every where, from the wreck of agriculture, the means of subsistence. When I found the seeds of any useful plant, I sowed them again; saying, if it do not benefit me, it may be of service to others. I found myself less miserable, seeing I could do some good. There was however one thing that I passionately desired: that was to enter into some cities. I admired at a distance their ramparts and towers, the prodigious course of vessels in their rivers, and of caravans upon their high ways,

loaded with merchandize, which were always arriving from every point of the compass; the warlike troops which came from the farthest provinces to mount guard there, ambassadors with their numerous retinues, arriving from distant nations to notify happy events, or in order to form alliances. I drew as near as I was permitted their outlets, viewing with astonishment the columns of dust raised by so many travellers, and felt my heart thrill with desire, at hearing the confused din of great cities, which in the neighbouring plains resembles the murmur of the waves breaking on the shore of the sea. I said to myself; an assemblage of men, from many different states, who have put into one common stock their industry, their riches, and their joy, must make a city a delightful abode. But if I may not enter it by day, what hinders me to enter it during the night? A weak silly mouse, who has so many enemies, goes and comes where she pleases, by the favour of the darkness: she passes from the hut of the cottager, to the palace of the prince. To enjoy life the light of the stars suffices her; and why must I have that of the sun?"

To be continued.

INDEX INDICATORIUS.

A lady who designs herself *Isabella*, sent to the Editor long ago a warm euligium on miss Jean Wood, daughter of the late governor Wood of the isle of Man; an effusion which though highly becoming in private, might not, the Editor supposed, have been altogether agreeable to the relations of the deceased lady. It is prefaced with this modest apology; "nor will any one, I hope, be offended at a young woman, for being grateful to an amiable but deceased friend." She closes the character thus, "At the age of 26 she died universally beloved. She was a dutiful daughter, an affectionate sister, a kind mistress, a faithful and unshaken friend, and as Dr Blacklock says,

Enough of life is given
When fame and virtue grace its close."

Scratch-Crown favours the Editor with an extract from the Lady's Magazine for 1785, giving an account of the origin of the ballad of Betsy Bell and Mary Gray; which as it is by no means authenticated and is contradicted by other accounts, could not be inserted.

He embraces the same opportunity of transmitting an oration in praise of benevolence—a subject on which so much has been said that little new can be expected. It is therefore better adapted to a

private circle of young persons than for the public. The following short extracts are given as a specimen.

"He (the benevolent man) hears of the distresses of others with a secret joy; but it is the "joy of grief." Or to speak without a figure his heart melts for their misfortunes, while his soul is enraptured at the glorious opportunity of relieving them, and he flies with an alacrity not to be described to pour the balm of relief and consolation into their wounds.

"It is not for those misfortunes alone which are in his power to alleviate that he feels; neither does he confine himself to one particular country, religion, or complexion. He hears of the unjust imprisonments in despotic lands; of the cruel massacres committed by the ambitious Russian upon the followers of Mahomet; of the wretched slavery of the unfortunate Africans, and gives to their misery all he can, a tear."

TO CORRESPONDENTS.

The verses by a *Constant Reader* are received. In attempting to disguise a hand that probably would never have been recognised by the Editor, this communication is rendered nearly illegible. It is not certain if it can be all made out.

The Editor has received several very long papers on the subject of France, for which he considers himself as indebted to the writers for their kind intentions; but he would be much more obliged to them, if they would turn their thoughts to *literary* subjects instead of *politics*, which he believes to be the most unprofitable of all studies, in the way it is usually viewed by inexperienced writers. Could young men be persuaded that government is a *practical* art, of which no adequate knowledge can be obtained but by a painful ascertaining of innumerable *facts*, that are exceedingly intricate to be unravelled; and that all speculative theories on that subject, tend only to bewilder the imagination, confound the judgement, and lead to the most dangerous errors, they would then be exceedingly shy in offering the first thoughts that occur to them on this head to the public. Among other good effects, it would save the editor of this miscellany a great deal of trouble in reading many papers which he must have the mortification to be obliged to reject; which he can assure his readers is a very painful part of his office. Wide is the field of science, and innumerable the opportunities of displaying talents in the augmentation of knowledge in its various departments, were we disposed to exercise them properly.

The Editor has also received several poems of considerable length and not destitute of merit, written in the Scottish dialect, of which he is sorry he cannot avail himself; for unless it be very short pieces, the respect he bears for those of his readers, who cannot understand that dialect, forbids him to insert them. He will try to make some short extracts from these in the *index indicatorius*.

THE BEE,

OR

LITERARY WEEKLY INTELLIGNER,


FOR

WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 18. 1793.

IVAN CZAROWITZ,

OR THE ROSE WITHOUT PRICKLES, THAT STINGS NOT,

A TALE.


 WRITTEN BY HER IMPERIAL MAJESTY.
Continued from p. 47.

IN the way he met the Han's daughter, who was married to the Sultan Briuzga, (harping, faultfinding person.) This man never laughed himself, and could not bear that an other should smile. The Sultana on the contrary was of a sprightly temper, and very agreeable. She seeing Ivan said to him ; " Welcome Ivan, how do you do? where are you " going." The Czarowitz answered ; ' By order of your father the Han, I am going to seek the rose without prickles, that stings not.' The Sultana Felitsa, (that was her name,) wondered that they should send a child to seek such a rarity, and taking a sincere liking to the boy, she said to him : " Czarowitz

“ stay a little, I will go with you to seek the rose
 “ without prickles, that stings not, if my father will
 “ give me leave.” Ivan went into his kibitka to
 dine, for it was dinner time, and the Sultana went
 to the Han to ask leave to go with the Czarowitz, to
 seek the rose without prickles, that stings not. The
 Han did not only not give her leave, but strictly for-
 bade her to go with the child to seek the rose with-
 out prickles, that stings not. Felitsa having left
 the Han, persuaded her husband Sultan Briuzga, to
 stay with her father the Han, and went herself to
 the Czarowitz. He was very happy to see her, and
 begged her to sit down beside him, which she did,
 and said, “ The Han has forbid me to go with you,
 “ Czarowitz, to seek the rose without prickles that
 “ stings not ; but I will give you good advice ;
 “ pray do not forget, do you hear, do not forget
 “ what I tell you.” The Czarowitz promised to
 remember. “ At some distance from hence, (con-
 “ tinued she,) as you go to seek the rose without
 “ prickles, that stings not, you will meet with peo-
 “ ple of very agreeable manners, who will endea-
 “ vour to persuade you to go with them ; they will
 “ tell you of a great many entertainments, and that
 “ they spend their time in innumerable pleasures ; do
 “ not believe them ; they lie ; their pleasures are
 “ false, and attended with much weariness. After
 “ them you will see others, who will still more
 “ earnestly press you on the same subject ; refuse
 “ them with firmness, and they will leave you.
 “ You will then get into a wood ; there you will
 “ find flatterers, who by agreeable conversation,

“ and every other means, will endeavour to draw you
“ out of your proper way ; but do not forget that you
“ have nothing to do but to seek one flower, a rose
“ without prickles that stings not. I love you, and
“ will send my son to meet you, who will help
“ you to find the rose without prickles that stings
“ not.” Ivan having heard the words of Felitsa,
asked her ; ‘ Is it so difficult to find the rose with-
‘ out prickles that stings not?’ “ No, answered
“ the Sultana, it is not so very difficult to an upright
“ person who perseveres firmly in his intention.”
Ivan asked if ever any body had found that flower ?
“ I have seen, said Felitsa, peasants and tradesmen,
“ who have as happily succeeded in this pursuit, as
“ nobles, kings, or queens.” The Sultana having
said this, took leave of the Czarowitz. Then the
Starshina his tutor led him to seek the rose with-
out prickles that stings not ; and for this purpose
let him out at a wicket into a large game park.

On entering the park, Ivan saw a vast number
of roads. Some were streight, some crooked, and
some full of intricate windings. The child did not
know which way to go ; but on seeing a youth com-
ing towards him, he made haste to meet him, and
ask who he was ? The youth answered, “ I am Raf-
“ sudok, (judgement,) the son of Felitsa ; my mo-
“ ther sent me to accompany you in your search
“ for the rose without prickles that stings not.”

The Czarowitz thanked Felitsa with heart and
lips, and having taken the youth by the hand, infor-
med himself of the way he should go. Rafsudok
said with a chearful and asured look, “ Fear nought

“ Czarowitz, let us go on the streight rood, where
 “ few walk, though it is more agreeable than the
 “ others.” ‘ Why do not all keep the streight road ?’
 said the Czarowitz : ‘ Because, replied the youth,
 “ they lose themselves, and get bewildered in the o-
 thers.” In going along, the youth showed Ivan a
 very beautiful little path, and said, “ Look Czarowitz,
 “ this is called the path of the nonage of well dis-
 “ posed souls. It is very pretty, but very short.”

They pursued their way through a wood into an agreeable plain, through which ran a rivulet of clear water. On the banks they saw troops of young people. Some were sitting on the grafs, and others were lying under the trees. As soon as they saw the Czarowitz, they got up and came to him. One of them with great politeness and insinuation of manner addrest him. “ Give me leave, said he, “ to ask you, Sir, where you are going ? Did you “ come here by chance ? Can we have the pleasure “ of serving you in any thing ? Your appearance “ fills us with respect and friendship ; and we are ra- “ vished with the number of your brilliant accom- “ plishments.” The Czarowitz recollecting the words of Felitsa, replied, ‘ I have not the honour ‘ to know you, and you also are unacquainted with ‘ me ; I therefore attribute your compliments to ‘ your politeness, and not to my own merits : I am ‘ going to seek the rose without prickles, that stings ‘ not.’ Another of the company joined the con- versation, and said, “ Your intention is a proof of “ your talents ; but oblige us so far as to favour us “ with your company a few days, and to take a

"share in the inimitable pleasures which we enjoy."

Ivan told them that he was restricted to a time, and that he could not delay lest he should incur the Han's displeasure. They endeavoured to persuade him that rest was necessary for his health, and that he could not find a place for this purpose more convenient, nor people more inclined to serve him. It is impossible to conceive how they begged and persuaded him. At length the men and women took each other by the hand, and formed a ring about Ivan and his conductor, and began to leap and dance, and hinder them from going further; but while they were whirling themselves about, Rafsudok snatched Ivan under his arm, and ran out of the ring with such speed, that the dancers could not catch hold of them.

Having proceeded farther, they came to Loentyag Murza (the sluggard chief,) the chief governor of the place, who was taking a walk with his household. He received Ivan and his conductor very civilly, and asked them into his lodging. As they were a little tired they went in with him. He desired them to sit down on the divan; and laid himself down by them on down pillows covered with old fashioned cloth of gold. His domestic friends sat down round the walls of the chamber. Loentyag Murza then ordered pipes, tobacco, and coffee to be served. Having understood that they did not smoke nor drink coffee, he ordered the carpets to be sprinkled with perfumes, and asked Ivan the reason of his excursion into the game park. The Czarrowitz answered, that by order of the Han he was in quest of the rose without prickles that stings not.

Loentyag Murza was amazed that he could undertake such an arduous attempt at so early an age. Addressing himself to Ivan, "Older than you, said he, "are scarce equal to such a business; rest a little; "don't proceed farther; I have many people here, "who have endeavoured to find out this flower, but "have all got tired and have deserted the pursuit." One of them that were present then got up and said: "I myself more than once tried to find it; but I "tired of it, and instead of it, I have found my "benefactor Loentyag Murza who supplies me with "meat and drink." In the midst of this conversation Loentyag Murza's head sunk into a pillow and he fell asleep. As soon as those that were seated about the walls of the room, heard that Loentyag Murza began to snore, they got up softly. Some of them went to dress themselves, some to sleep; some took to idle conversation, and some to cards and dice. During these employments some flew into a passion, others were well pleased; and upon the faces of all were marked the various situations of their souls. When Loentyag Murza awoke, they again gathered around him, and a table covered with fruit was brought into the room. Loentyag Murza remained among his pillows, and from thence asked the Czaro-witz, who very earnestly observed all that passed, to eat. Ivan was just going to taste what was offered by Loentyag Murza, when his conductor pulled him gently by the sleeve, and a bunch of fine grapes which he had laid hold of, fell out of his hand and was scattered upon the pavement. Recollecting him-

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self immediately he got up, and they left Lœntyag
Murza. *

To be continued.

ON THE VALUE AND USES OF THE LARCH TREE.

J. A.
Continued from p. 16.

Hop poles.

HOP poles are only wanted in certain districts; but where they are wanted, it is a matter of very serious concern to be able to obtain them at a small expence; nor can any wood be named that can be put into competition with larch wood for hop poles. From the accidental experiment by Mr Dempster, it appears that no wood can be half so durable. It seems to me probable, that a set of larch poles would outlast three or four sets at least of ash poles; and as larch can be reared every where so as to admit of their being had at every place where they can be wanted, free of expence of carriage, (which cannot be the case with ash poles,) they could probably be afforded in all cases at less than half the original cost of ash poles, and in many cases at less than one fourth of that cost. The saving on this article, therefore, in these circumstances is obvious.

* This description of Lœntyag Murza accords so much with the manners of some of the Russian nobility that it is allowable to suppose that majesty took the picture from some one of them.

Shafts for carts.

Carts consisting only of a pair of shafts joined firmly together to support the load, and connected with the wheels, are wanted for the transporting of many kinds of goods. In these carriages, strength, durability, lightness, and cheapness, are the requisites chiefly wished for; and for these purposes, no kind of wood yet known equals the larch. At present such carts are much in use about Leith, and over all Scotland, for transporting grain, stones, metals, casks, and merchant goods of all sorts, and a variety of country uses. No material has yet been found that answers the purpose so well as small spars of Norway fir; but this, though light and cheap, is neither strong nor durable.

Larch wood is now coming forward in great abundance in every part of Scotland; but being as yet young, and the tree beautiful, and the quality of the wood little known or adverted to, few persons can think of cutting any of them down. It happened, however, some years ago, that the lord chief baron of the exchequer for Scotland had occasion to cut out some young larches that stood in the course of a road he was making for a *drive* through his plantations. These trees were beautiful; and being of a proper size for the purpose, he ordered two of them to be made into shafts for a cart. Their superior excellency above all others was soon perceived; and the people in that neighbourhood are now ready to purchase larch trees of a proper size for that use at a very advanced price. So it will be with regard to all the ar-

1793. *on the value and uses of the larch tree.* 89
articles above enumerated as soon as their real value
shall be experimentally ascertained.

Small wood for country houses.

It is of much importance for the proprietors of land in every remote and unimproved part of the country, to be particularly attentive to supply the wants of the poorer classes of the people; for whatever renders their situation more comfortable, tends to attach them to their native spot,—to encourage their industry,—to awaken hope, and add energy to all their exertions; which are the only sure means of promoting improvements on his estate, and thus adding to the value of his property. Let no one therefore despise as trivial, any circumstance which tends to ameliorate the situation of this humble but very useful class of people.

The want of proper wood, at a cheap rate, for making comfortable huts for the poor, is an inconvenience severely felt in many parts of Britain. This has been in part remedied in many places in Scotland already, by the numerous plantations of firs which have been there made within the last twenty or thirty years; and the proprietors of these estates, begin already to feel the good effects of it.

Larch spires possess every valuable property of fir; but by being greatly more durable, and much less apt to catch fire than fir wood, they would of course be proportionably more useful for these purposes.

Hay rakes.

This is an article of universal consumption ; and the demand for them must be for ever increasing. At present it is only in a few places that wood for making these can be reared ; and even where the wood is the best and cheapest, the expence of making rakes of ash or willow, is much greater than they could be done for of larch ; and they are also much more perishable : and as larch wood can be had every where, the charge of the carriage of rakes from one part of the country to another, which is often considerable, and greatly enhances the price of that article, might be entirely saved.

Larch wood is as light and as tough as the best willow, and infinitely less apt to split ; for that reason it would be much better for the head of the rake than willow : and ash is too weighty, or if made of crop wood, greatly too brittle for the purpose here wanted.

Larix too if planted close together grows perfectly straight and smooth in the bark, having only small branches that could be easily shaved off. If it were planted properly, and duly cared for, in a good soil and situation, the trees would attain the proper size for hay rakes in from six to eight years from the time of planting. Were the thick end cut off for the head of the rake, the remainder would be fit for the handle ; the small point being cut off for light railing and other purposes to be after mentioned. Such spires could be afforded at a very small price ; and the time expended in making the rakes would not perhaps be one half of what is necessary at

1793. *on the value and uses of the larch tree.* 91
present. I will not attempt to state the saving on
this article ; nor to estimate the difference that would
arise from the superior durability of these rakes ;
but when it is adverted to that the larch scarcely
shrinks at all after it has been once dry, and that
hay rakes at present are often rendered useless in a
very few days, merely because of the shrinking of
the wood, the saving here must be obviously very
great.

Sneads or handles for sythes.

The same peculiarities that render larch good for
hay rakes, point it out as the most proper of all sub-
stances for sneads or shafts for sythes. From the na-
ture of the growth of this tree, it becomes suscep-
tible of one advantage for this purpose that no o-
ther wood possesses. By a very little attention it
might be easy to select such spires as had branches
springing out from the stem, at the places where
the short handles are required, and in the position
that is necessary for that purpose: this would save a
considerable expence of iron work in mounting the
sythe. The branches of the larch often spring from
the stem nearly at right angles. The only thing
that would be wanted to render these perfect, would
be to make these branches thick enough, by fixing u-
pon these snags a piece of turned wood, as is done for
the handles of hedge sheers, to be grasped in the
hand of the mower. What gave me the first idea
of this improvement was, the seeing some sneads
that had been made of a piece of fir lath plained,
in which was stuck into two neat mortises made
in the snead for that purpose, two short handles of

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fir also; but it is evident that the natural branches
would be firmer and stronger for that purpose than
the others.

Small railing, cages for poultry, hen coops, &c.

The small points cut off from the spires in making hay rakes &c. need not be lost. These, if cut to an equal length, between three and four feet, and stuck into the ground at regular distances, having their points received above into a sawed lath of the same wood, pierced with holes of a proper size for receiving them, would make a neat and cheap small railing, which would be found extremely convenient on innumerable occasions.

Or, they might be easily worked on the same plan, into cages for poultry, or into the spars of hen coops, which would be neat, cheap, and durable.

Under-draining damp ground.

The small twigs and lesser branches, would also, on account of their incorruptibility, furnish the best material that ever yet has been discovered, for filling up open drains in damp grounds; and thus would prove an effectual means of promoting one of the greatest improvements that ever can take place in many parts of Britain. At present there are innumerable extensive tracts of damp weeping clays, which are in a great measure useless to the farmer because of the difficulty of finding cheap materials for filling open drains; and which, if sufficiently drained, would be at once rendered of more than four times their present value. Other kinds of brush wood, even where these can be had, are of such a perishable nature, as to answer this purpose very imperfectly.

Even where stones can be had for this use, which is only in few places, these do it in an imperfect manner; and are extremely expensive: and where these materials are wanting, and *strong* heath cannot be had, which next to the larch is the most incorruptible of all our woody plants, the draining of such lands is intirely impracticable. But in every situation in Britain, the larix could be reared with ease; so that in a very few years, the branches of it could be had in plenty for the important purpose now under consideration. This will appear a trifling matter to some; but to those who have well considered the subject, it will be deemed an object of great national importance.

Draining peat mosses and extensive bogs.

Larch brush would be peculiarly convenient for the purpose here enumerated, because, on account of the softness of the ground, no *weighty* material can be brought upon it. From this circumstance no better expedient has been yet devised for closing these drains than that of setting the dried sod of the surface in the bottom, so as to leave a kind of triangular opening. This answers the purpose for a *short time*; but as it soon closes, this must be considered as a very imperfect expedient. Even heath where it could be had, would be less proper here than in firmer fields; as the drains must often, on account of the softness of the ground, be made of too great a width for that kind of material. Larch brush therefore is the best, and indeed the only known substance that can be economically applied for this purpose on a *large scale*.

94 *on the value and uses of the larch tree. Sept. 18,*
Making roads in swampy ground.

From the same peculiarity in the larch that we have so often had occasion to notice, the branches and brush wood will supply an object that has been a great desideratum in many places, a sure foundation for a firm road through bogs, moyses, and swampy grounds. Heath is almost the only material we have yet discovered in Scotland for this purpose; but on account of its small size, it is by no means so proper for that use as could be wished; and were it even better than it is, there are many situations in which heath cannot be had. But there are none where larch brush could not in a short time be obtained; so that by means of this valuable assistant, roads may be opened through many parts of Britain, that have hitherto been thought impassable. To make a road in such cases, after making a ditch on each side of as great a depth and width as can be conveniently made, and with the materials, such as they are, raising it somewhat above the ordinary level, the whole should be covered with a thick bed of larch branches laid lengthwise across the road; and then firm materials, of sufficient thickness, laid above it. Nothing can make a better road than this; and few roads would be more durable.

Fire wood.

It may seem surprising that I should here mention larch as proper for fire wood, after having said that it is scarcely combustible. Experience however has discovered that this seeming incongruity may be reconciled. Larch wood, in large solid pieces, can scarcely be made to burn; but the small twigs and brush may be consumed. These twigs, howe-

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ver, burn much more slowly than the brush wood of other trees ; which by getting up into a blaze, are suddenly consumed, and require a continual feeding and great attention to get a fire of a moderate equality of heat. For this reason *brush* wood is entirely rejected for firing, wherever billets can be obtained at a moderate expence ; but larch brush burns more slowly, and affords a heat nearly as equable as billets of other wood. It is only of late, and in a very few places in Scotland, that the people have had an opportunity of remarking this peculiarity of the larch ; and though this use of it would not have readily occurred as obvious to a speculative inquirer, it was very soon discovered *in practice*, by the few trials that were made of it. It has been found to be so much more valuable for this use in a district south of the Tweed in Scotland, where coal is at a great distance, and fuel of course scarce, that the people are ready to buy it at a much higher price than brush of any other kind. This circumstance has induced a gentleman of eminence in the literary line, to abandon the planting of firs almost entirely, which he began with chiefly for firewood, and to substitute larch in their stead.

All the uses of the *larix* above mentioned are intended to show what benefits may be derived from a plantation of larch trees, *at a very early period of their growth* ; and to demonstrate that under judicious management, a man may, even within the short space of five or six years from the time of planting, in many situations, begin to draw profit from these plantations ; but when the wood is allowed to attain mature age and perfection, there are still other

96 *on delays in the court of Session. Sept. 18.*
and perhaps more important uses to which it may be
then applied, of which the following is a brief e-
numeration of such as occur to me at the present.

To be continued.

ON THE DELAYS INCIDENT TO THE COURT OF SESSION.

Continued from p. 60.

To the Lord President of the Court of Session.

LETTER III.

MY LORD,

THE waste of time in a law suit is like the squan-
dering of money : It is continual and irreparable.
A month's time is allowed to a party to make his ap-
pearance in court. A fortnight more is consumed
by the *outgiving* and *enrollment*. And after the
pleading of the cause, the lord ordinary seldom de-
cides even the relevancy, but generally appoints a
condescendence, either of the facts that the pursuer
undertakes to prove in support of his action, or
of those the defender founds upon in his defence.
Ten days are commonly allotted for this purpose ;
but they extend to a fortnight, before the cause
appears in the roll. Another fortnight elapses in
the making of answers ; and the like space is e-
qually necessary both for replies and duplies : nor
can less than a fortnight well be allowed to the lord
ordinary for advising the whole of these papers.
Thus a period of three or four months is consu-
med before the first interlocutor is pronounced.
In other words, a whole winter session is necessary

for bringing the parties to join issue in the cause, even though neither party should occasion undue delay.

But the fact is, that the tardy party in place of a fortnight, will often take six weeks or two months at a time, to give in his paper ; and will procure repeated delays, under various pretences, in spite of continued inrollments.

Even the party whose interest it is to expedite, will often delay his own cause, from the pressure of other business ; or from indolence, or the difficulty of procuring or arranging that sort of evidence which he wishes to found upon.

And when a cause grows bulky from length of time and length of writing, it becomes burdensome to the judge also, who cannot but feel a reluctance against sitting down to consider a variety of long and perplexing papers ; and to unravel the facts, and turn up and apply the law to them.

If this be the case at the commencement of the action, and before an interlocutor allowing a proof or appointing a production ; what must happen when a cause grows tiresome upon all hands, by being brought under review again and again and again ; and that too either when one question is started after another, and followed out with the same lengthened and persevering obstinacy ; or, when the whole points that can be brought forward are blended together, so as to make the cause more burdensome, and to increase the confusion ; and render the case still the more inextricable.

It is in vain to think that the vigilance of an ordinary, will ever be sufficient to remove such complicated causes of delay. Besides that an artful party is often able to influence the passions and prejudices of the judge in the way of creating confusion, for the purpose of procuring time, or misleading the judgement.

Nothing short of necessity will ever compel parties to forgo every attempt of that kind, and prevent the judge from indulging them in any degree. Indeed the beauty and excellency of forms is, not only to constrain the parties, but also to fetter the judge himself, without influencing his opinion; and so to free him as it were from the weaknesses, and errors of human nature. But how that can be accomplished in the present case, is a matter that must probably be left to your lordship's own consideration. I shall however submit what occurs to me upon the subject in a future letter, and I remain &c.

LENTULUS.

NOTICES OF THE WILD HORSES IN SIBERIA.

J. A.
We can have no idea of the natural faculties of animals which we have been accustomed to see only in a domestic state; for there, depending upon man for a liberal supply to all their wants, they have no occasion to exercise their natural talents; and these appear to be entirely obliterated.

These reflections are occasioned by a communication of a correspondent from the province of in the southern parts of Siberia. He says there is nothing in that province which he thinks will be so acceptable to the people of Britain as the history of the wild horse, a noble animal that is found in the extensive plains of Southern Siberia, in considerable numbers.

He warns me that my readers may suspect he exaggerates here : but he assures me he does not ; and says if he does he can be corrected by some persons now living in Britain, who know the facts as well as him.

The wild horse, he says, though a gregarious animal, does not go in promiscuous flocks like cattle or sheep ; but each male chooses for himself a certain number of females, with whom alone he associates during the whole year, beating off every other male which offers to approach them. The strongest of course has the best harem ; and the weaker are obliged to go without any : But when he has once fixed himself, he defends his own property ; never attempting to incroach on that of another. The battles that are fought for the females at the beginning of the season are furious, and often prove fatal to one of the parties ; but when the victory is once decided, the weakest never afterwards that season disputes for superiority.

The horse, when he has once obtained his females, governs them with despotic authority. Whenever he calls upon them they must obey otherwise they are punished severely ; and the mares are so sensible

of this, that they discover every symptom of the most perfect obedience to their lord and master.

His government however is founded on love ; and his authority is exercised, rather for the protection of his subjects, than their injury. The great enemy they have there to dread is the wolf ; and if the horse did not take care to keep them close together, so as to receive the benefit of his protection, they would be soon exterminated. It is the foals only that the wolf ever attacks ; and against his attacks they are much upon their guard. When they see any appearance of danger, the horse gives the call ; and they all instantly gallop up to him. The foals are then put all together ; and the mares laying their heads together above the foals, form a circle all round with their heels outward, ready to strike their enemy if he approaches. The horse in the mean time remains without the circle to be ready to attack wherever the danger shall be greatest. One wolf dares never make the attack by himself. When they come up, the horse gallops round his family, trampling to death every one he can reach, or tearing them with his teeth ; and so strong is his bite when thus enraged, that they frequently have been known, with a single gnash of their teeth, to break the back of a wolf and kill him entirely. It seldom happens that the wolves prevail in this contest ; and they so much dread the power of this noble animal, that they seldom make the attack unless when they are much pinched for hunger.

This breed of horses, though nimble and active, not of a very large size. The hunting of these

1793. *crossing different breeds of sheep.* 101
horses, which is only attempted by the natives for catching them alive, especially the young ones, is attended with difficulty and danger; and must not be attempted without due precautions.

EFFECT OF CROSSING DIFFERENT BREEDS OF SHEEP.

SIR, *To the Editor of the Bee.*

I SEND you enclosed a sample of wool, which I have just now clipped from a ewe sheep, which was one year old last April, bred of a ewe I bought of Mr John M'Donnald of Burrodale near Fort William, and got by a tup of the Leicestershire breed. The ewe was a little narrow backed creature with horns,—her face and legs black, not above eight pounds a quarter when fat, and cost me only 7s. Her fleece which did not weigh above two pounds, was mostly hair of a brown or grey colour, not worth above 4d. a pound. She had two of these lambs at a birth, and as she could not make them fat, I kept them to try what improvement the cross with a Leicestershire tup would make; and indeed it has exceeded my most sanguine expectation. As to their wool you can judge of it by the sample; and their form I think very good. They have a straight flat back,—are without horns,—mottled faces and legs, and seem very hardy and much inclined to feed. They being almost fit for the butcher now, although they have had but poor keeping. When thoroughly fat, they will weigh fifteen or sixteen pounds a quarter.

If you think, Mr Editor, the above information will be of any service, either to the members of the

Yb2 *reading memorandums.* Sept. 18.
society instituted for the improvement of British
wool in Scotland, or to the stock farmers, you are
at liberty to make what use you think proper of
it. Yours, &c.

*Ancroft, near Berwick
upon Tweed,
Sept. 7. 1793.*

JOHN NISBET.

P. S. They are in my possession, and may be seen
by any person that will call upon me. J. N.

* * Along with this letter was sent a specimen of ve-
ry pretty wool, perfectly free from hairs of any sort,
and fine and soft. The points of it had a slight brown-
ish tinge, probably contracted from the soil on
which it had been pastured ; for the roots of the
wool were of a very fine white. The specimen will
be kept at the Bee office for the sake of any person
who may wish to see it. This is one strong in-
stance of the benefits that may accrue from judi-
ciously crossing different breeds. *Edit.*

READING MEMORANDUMS.

NOTHING can support the soul in all its distresse^s
but a confidence in the Supreme Being ; nor can a
steady and effectual magnanimity flow from any
other source, nor this confidence be otherwise ac-
quired than by prayer and meditation, and acting
from a conscientiousness of the divine favour.

DE VIRO CLARO ATQUE ERUDITO
GEORGIO STUART, L.L.D.

LITERARUM HUMANIORUM IN ACADEMIA EDINENSI PROFESSORE,
NUPER DEFUNCTO.

Doleant Musæ !

Corruit ingens columna linguae Latinæ ;
Occidit vir magnus in republicâ literarum :
Quo quis flebilior ? seu consilium respicias,
Sive scientiam, sive amicitiam,
Sive leporis atque facetias,
Sive animum liberum atque rectum.
Multa multis benefecit, præcipue juventuti
Studiosæ atque egenæ ; quorum multos
Gratuitò erudit, atque ad vitæ conditionem
Haud pœnitendam evexit.
Mores hominum acriter inspexit,
Et feliciter depinxit.

Quid magis elegans, quid veritati magis consentaneum,
Quam quas exprimere solebat imagines viroꝝ clarorum ?

Quis auctores Latinos animosius digniusve explicavit ?

Quis antiquitates Romanas clarius illustravit ?

Quis elegantias feliciter elicit,

Aut difficultates discussit ?

Opus contexit magni laboris atque pretii,

Supplementum scilicet atque additamentum

Thesauri viri clarissimi Roberti Ainsworth,

Quod, summo cum literarum detrimento,

Cautione et timiditate bibliopolarum, cheu ! est interiturum.

Modicas industriâ atque curâ comparavit opes ;

Quibus in villâ suâ prope Musselburgum,

Viginti fere annos, nec turpem nec injucundam transegit

Senectutem.

Novem superfuit liberis ; in eis filio,

Insigni literarum ornamento :

Nec non amantissimæ uxori,

Quicum annos LI conjunctissime vixerat.

Decefsit tandem decimo quarto kalendas Julias, MDCCXCIII ;

Anno ætatis suæ octogesimo,

Omnes animi dotes integerrime retinens,

Magnumque sui desiderium apud omnes suos

Relinquens.

INDEX INDICATORIUS.

I. S. sends a poem in Scottish verse which is intended to show that there is nothing incongruous in the measure there adopted for serious disquisitions. It is greatly too long for this miscellany, besides being more of a metaphysical cast than is suitable to its plan; a few of the stanzas are selected as a specimen of it.

Kind night has gi'en the eard a soakin',
The sun will soon set her a-smokia',
On Arthurs seat the skies are rokin'
Like Sauney's bonnet,
What wad ye think my muse bot [without] jokin'
To croon a sonnet?

Aurora wi' a silent pace
But quick, climbs up the east skie's face,
While heavy, I the windings trace
To this hill head;
But perseverance maun take place
O' wings an' speed.

Sae wi' a' good that men attempt :
Nae wise pursuits frae toil exempt :
But I'll no halt tho' limbs should cramp,
 Till on the crown.
Its fools an sluggards ease can tempt
 Short to sit down.

An' now that I hae reach'd your height
Sweet hill! nae thing presents my sight
I' the country round, if I mind right,
That's no been sung;
Cumming * has round ye wing'd his flight
Nor can be dung.

Auld Reekie's bard † ah ! o'er soon set,
Has sung the *Firth o' Forth* sae neat ;
Its warse than mad to imitate
Sic matchless strains ;
We short syne tried to crown the fleet
Ah ! what remains ?

To hea v'n my muse ! then turn your eie.
There Phæbus verges frae the sea.
If he comes wast, or east row we
It makes no which ;
Good e'en says he to land o' tea
An' India rich.

* Author of a poetical description of Edinburgh.

† Ferguson.

Poor *Scotia* too maun hae her share,
For sic is his *paternal* care
Wha govens here an' every where,
Nor aught misguides,
Frae meanest worm, to that grand sphere
That time divides.

The bard then entering into a metaphysical disquisition about the lowest stages of organisation, he proceeds.

To ca' this life, I wad be laith ;
An' yet it's plain it is no death:
Petrificates, concretions baith,
 Claim some relation
Unto, and seem not far beneath
 Weak vegetation.

**This nameless something, some degrees
Short of kind life, call't sympathies,
Attractions or antipathies,
Or gravitation,
Its God's word living (if ye please.)
Through a' creation.**

**This is the first short stage frae death :
Next's vegetation, short o' breath :
Far short of reason, they fa' baith.
Man has them a'
In we life which brings him aneath
A moral law.**

Sae as we rise, still death above,
We rise in wisdom, pow'r, and love :
For that's our life. As on these move,
We nearer draw
Perfection's mark : T'were vain to prove
This is the law.

The poet proceeds to give many good moral advices, and religious opinions, which our limits prevent us from specifying. He concludes with the following stanza.

Adieu, my scrap o' rough Scots rhyme,
I dare na say that ye're sublime,
Or that ye hae sae well kept time
As I intendit,
But wha thinks droll'ry is your crime,
May try to mend it.

Another poem written in a more elevated strain, has been transmitted by a correspondent to whom the readers of the Bee have been indebted for many valuable articles, requesting that, as the performance of a promising young man, it may be inserted in the Bee; so that it is with great reluctance the Editor finds himself obliged to decline it; both on account of the subject, on which he wishes not to enlarge, and its great length which exceeds the limits appropriated to poetical exercises. He cannot however omit the following excerpts as a small specimen of the work. It is entitled

Modern France

After having taken a very extensive survey of the present state of France; and in glowing colours depicted many scenes with which the public have been distressed for a great while past, he addresses himself to the present rulers thus,

Yet think not, ye who ride upon the wings
Of mooish praise, and tread the thrones of kings,
Your daring souls shall long their flights explore,
And still enjoy the honours they adore.
Short is the favour of the fickle crowd;
Often it changes as an April cloud.
Now high in air see guilty MARAT rise;
Now pierc'd by female hands the caitif dies;
FAYETTE already in the dungeon's gloom,
Laments his sad reverse and early tomb;
Whilst fam'd DUMOURIER wanders o'er the world,
Despis'd, unnotic'd, as a bubble hurl'd.
And he who grasp'd at boundless sway, CUSTINE,
Dragg'd unlamented to the guillotine;
BRISOT degraded: MANUEL stab'd by those
Of his own city, where he sought repose:
CONDORCET who ere while the Senate sway'd
Wanders like Cain, of ev'ry one afraid:
PAYNE in a quarry hides his trembling head *;
And blood stain'd ORLEANS soon himself must bleed;
MARET and SIMONVILLE in prison sav'd,
And BOURNONVILLE, by those they oft had brav'd,
Fierce DANTON, tho' the fav'rite of the hour,
Arm'd with unbounded dictatorial pow'r,
May fret his day upon the murd'rous stage,
But fall he must beneath the people's rage;
Unless, perchance, the people he enslave,
For nought but slavery can the tyrant save.

* The whole city of Paris is built above an immense excavation formed by digging stones for ages past; in these Payne it is said now conceals himself.

Deluded people! who prefer the rule
 Of perjured traitors, of the knave and fool!
 What tho' their heads encircles not a crown?
 Their brows still wear the caitiffs sullen frown.
 And tho' a monarch's name not grates the ear,
 From blood-stained tyrants you have more to fear,
 Who all from base subjection rais'd to pow'r
 Brandish the scourge, and every good devour.

These lines are spirited; but whether just or not the reader is left to decide. At any rate the above it is hoped will be deemed enough on this subject.

One who stiles himself a *Hermit*, sent long ago the following lines, with several others of the same stamp, which, not having had leisure to continue our *index indicatorius* at the time, were laid aside; they now come in their turn to afford some amusement in this hurlo thrumbo collection of scraps.

"The hermit's consolitary reflection to the poorer class of his brethren of mankind on his accidentally seeing in a news paper a description of the female dresses on a late occasion."

Vanity of vanities sayeth the preacher,
 Than him was never a better teacher.
 Another mentions sepulchres tho' painted,
 As with corruption inward strongly tainted;
 And a good bard of old talking of female dress,
 We all well know thus did himself express,
 "In days of old when Kenneth ruled the nation,
 "When trews and Highland plaids were much in fashion,
 "Maids did not fence their breasts with bones of whales;
 "But even as nature taught they wore their tails,
 "The scope of all love tales and am'rous charms,
 "Is to have Meg claspt naked in our arms."
 Thus naked Meg as far these toys exceeds,
 As pure devotion heaps of useless beads;
 Which must just comfort yield to th' honest poor,
 Those guidy trappings who cannot procure,
 The more that of this gem, they're always sure.
 One day a cock perhaps these toys to scorn,
 In place of one pick'd up a barley corn;
 Which clearly shows that what best nature suits,
 Is known by instinct to the very brutes.

Immediately is added the following address to the Editor of the Bee

The comic and pathetic here you find,
 Which never fail to influence the mind;
 And tho' on different subjects hints you see,
 Allow me yet one thought upon the Bee.
 Its not suppos'd the Bee can food extract
 From ev'ry shrub and herb her view may attract;
 And tho' the gardner plants for her profuse,
 She's the best judge of what is fit to choose;
 And some as useles surely must refuse. }
 By this is meant, that what's above inclos'd
 The Bee will use as she shall be dispos'd:
 Or if the whole she chooses to reject,
 The hermit is dispos'd not to reflect.
 As nothing here he hopes is said amiss,
 Allow him only farther to say this:
 If she is pleased to admit his song,
 He'll give her hints quite short as it is long.
 But if refus'd, and mov'd the hermit's moan,
 He'll swear the Bee's turn'd to a perfect drone;
 Or tho' that he should never better thrive
 Drives him unwilling to some other hive.
 Not you to tire with any further chat,
 The subject far exceeds the lady's cat.
 The one pathetic, and the other comic,
 The long deserves as well's the short laconic.
 In short as to the rest he's quite indifferent;
 She'll do with them as seemeth most convenient:
 To read and burn or put in at her pleasure
 Now or at any time when most at leisure.

Several other pieces of the same stamp have been received which are omitted.

THE INDIAN COTTAGE

A TALE.
M. G. G. G. G.
 Continued from p. 79

It was in the invirons of Delhi that I made these reflections. They emboldened me so much that I entered that city in the evening by the gate of Lahore. I first hurried through a long solitary street, formed to the right and left, by houses, with terraces in front, supported by arches, under which are the shops of various kinds of merchandise. At due distances, I met with great caravanseras strongly bolted, and vast bazars, or market places, where the most profound silence reigned. Approaching the interior parts of the ci-

ty, I crossed the magnificent quarter of the Omrahs, situated along the river Gemma, full of palaces and gardens. There every thing resounded with the musical instruments and songs of the bayaderes, who were dancing by the light of flambeaux on the banks of the river. I presented myself at the gate of one of the gardens in order to enjoy so agreeable a sight; but I was pushed back by slaves, who, with the blows of their batons, kept off such wretches as me. Removing from the quarter of the great, I passed several pagodas, where a great number of unfortunate creatures, prostrate on the ground, were abandoning themselves to sorrow. I made haste to shun the sight of these monuments of superstition and of fear. Farther on, the piercing cries of mollahs, proclaiming to the skies the watches of the night, apprised me that I was at the foot of the minarets of a mosque. Near by were the factories of the Europeans, with their pavillions and their watchmen, crying incessantly, *kaber dar! take care of yourselves.* I next went along the side of a great building, that I knew to be a prison, from the clanking of chains, and the groans of the prisoners. Soon after I heard shrieks of pain that proceeded from a vast hospital, out of which came at the same time carts loaded with dead corpses. Travelling along, I met robbers and house-breakers flying along the streets, and patrols of the watch running after them; groups of beggars who, in spite of the blows of the rattan, were begging at the gates of the palaces of the great, some of the off-falls and remains of their feasts; and every where those unhappy females who are public prostitutes in order to procure the means of subsistence. In short, after a long walk in the same street, I arrived at an immense square which surrounds the fortress inhabited by the great Mogul. This square was filled with the tents of the rajahs or nabobs of his guard, and their regiments, distinguished from each other by flambeaux, colours, and long canes adorned with cow tails of the kingdom of Thibet. A large trench filled with water, and fenced with artillery, as well as the square, ran quite round the fortress. By the light of the fire belonging to the guard I considered the towers of this castle, which rose to the clouds and the extent of the ramparts, the length of which was lost in the horizon. I should have wished much to enter it; but some great korahs or whips hung upon posts removed every desire of setting my foot in it. I therefore stopped at one of its extremities, near some black slaves, who permitted me to rest myself beside the fire round which they were seated. Thence I considered the imperial palace; and I said to myself, is this then the abode of the happiest of the

sons of men? Is it to obtain his favour that so many priests of different religions preach obedience to him; for his glory that so many ambassadors arrive; for his treasures that so many provinces are exhausted; for his pleasure that so many caravans travel; and for his security that so many armed men watch in silence during the night?

While I was making these reflections shouts of joy filled the square; and I saw pass eight camels adorned with splendid trappings. I learned that they were loaded with the heads of rebels which the generals of the great Mogul had sent him from the province of Decan, where one of his sons, whom he had made governor of it, had been carrying on a war against him for three years. A little after arrived at full speed, a courier mounted on a dromedary. He came with the news of the loss of a city on the frontiers of India, by the treason of its governor delivered up to the king of Persia. Scarcely was this courier past when another, sent by the governor of Bengal, came in with the news, that some Europeans, to whom, (for the benefit of trade,) the emperor had granted leave to establish a factory at the mouth of the Ganges, had there built a fort, and had made themselves masters of the navigation of that river. Some moments after the arrival of these two couriers, there came out of the castle an officer at the head of a detachment of the guards. He had the Mogul's order to go into the quarter of the omrahs, and to bring three of the chief of them, loaded with chains, accused of holding intelligence with the enemies of the state. The evening before he had caused to be arrested a mollah who in one of his sermons had spoken favourably of the king of Persia, and had plainly said that the emperor was an infidel, because, contrary to the law of Mahomet, he drank wine. In short it was affirmed that he had caused to be strangled, and cast into the Gemma, one of his wives and two captains of the guards, convicted of having been concerned in the rebellion of his son. While I was reflecting on these tragical events, a long column of fire burst suddenly from the kitchens of the seraglio; its volumes of smoke mixed with the clouds, and its red light shone bright upon the towers of the fortress, its trenches, the square, the minarets of the city, and extended as far as the horizon. Immediately the great kettle drums, the karnas or great harmoniums of the guard, sounded the alarm with a terrible noise; squadrons of cavalry spread in the city, forcing the doors of the houses near the castle, and compelling with heavy lashes of korahs, their inhabitants to run to assist in extinguishing the fire. I experienced myself too, how

dangerous to the little is the neighbourhood of the great. The great are like the fire, which scorches even those who throw incense into it; if they approach too near it. I wished to make off; but all the entrances of the square were shut. It had been impossible for me to get out of it, if it had not been, that, by the providence of God, the place where I was happened to be hard by the seraglio. As the eunuchs were carrying off the ladies on elephants, they facilitated my escape; for if the guards every where by the lashes of their whips obliged people to come to the relief of the castle, the elephants by the blows of their trunks, forced them to get out of their way. Thus, one while pursued by the one, and as oft pushed back by the other, I got out of this terrible chaos; and by the bright shining light of the conflagration, I gained the other extremity of the suburbs, where, in some wretched hovels, far from the great, the inhabitants in peaceful repose, rested from all their toil. There I began to recover my breath. I said to myself, "Well then, I have seen a city! I have seen the residence of the sovereign of the nations. Ah! how few sovereigns are not themselves slaves! Even in the time of repose they are the slaves of voluptuousness, ambition, superstition, and avarice: even when asleep, they have reason to be afraid of a crowd of wretches and rogues with which they are encompassed; robbers, beggars, courtisans, incendiaries, and even their soldiers, their nobles, and their priests. What must a city be then during the day? The evils to which man is subjected, increase with his enjoyments. How much is the emperor to be pitied then in whom they are all united! He has reason to dread civil and foreign wars; and even the means of his defence, and of his consolation, his generals, his guards, his mollahs, his wives, and his children. The ditches and ramparts of his fortresses cannot defend him from the phantoms of superstition; nor can his elephants with all their trappings, keep at a distance, or drive away cares. For my part I fear nothing of that sort; no tyrant has any power over my body, or over my mind. I can serve God according to my conscience, and I have nothing to dread from any man, if I torment not myself: in truth a paria is less miserable than an emperor. While I was speaking these words the tears rushed into my eyes, and falling on my knees I thanked heaven which in order to instruct me to bear misfortunes, had shewn me distress more intolerable than my own.

To be continued.

SLIGHT NOTICES OF TOULON.

TOULON is the finest naval arsenal in France ; and perhaps the most complete one in the universe : its fortifications towards the sea are so strong, and the access into the harbour so narrow, and so well defended by batteries of heavy cannon, as to make it be deemed nearly impregnable on that side. Towards the land the fortifications, tho' not so formidable, are strong, and capable of withstanding a powerful attack. But the greatest strength of the place consists in the nature of the ground that surrounds it ; which is every where so difficult as to render any approach to it extremely hazardous.

It is situated in a valley surrounded by high grounds on the west, north, and partly on the east ; which are at such a distance as, one excepted, not to command the town. The only access to this valley from the westward is by two narrow defiles, through one of which passes the road to Marseilles, and the other to Aix. These defiles are commanded by high ground strongly fortified, which may be easily defended against a much superior force.

Supposing these passes to be carried, the plain in which the approaches to the town must be made, is open on the south to an arm of the sea which forms what they call the *outer harbour*, where the water is so deep that ships of war can lay their sides close to the shore ; and it is commanded on the north by some strong batteries, erected upon the face of the northern hills, so that the assailants must be flanked both on the right and on the left until these batteries be silenced, and the ships commanded by a superior force.

Towards the east the valley is more open. Through it passes the road to Nice ; and though the ground is there in some places swampy and unfavourable for military approaches, yet in the year 1747 when it was last besieged, this appeared to be its weakest side, on which account a strong regular fort has been erected upon an eminence that commands at the same time the entrance to the town, and even the town itself, whose naval arsenal is within the range of its guns, and open to them, so that till that fort be taken no approach can be made to the town on that side ; and as the safety of that town depends on the possession of that fort, every device has been adopted to render it impregnable. This is the fort *Malgue* mentioned in Lord Hood's dispatches as being put under the command of the gallant captain *Elphinston*. On this side too the town has the additional defence of mines, which extend to the distance of more than a mile from its walls.

ERRATUM.

In page 41 introduction near the bottom some words have been accidentally misplaced ; it ought to be read " *Tsaritsa*, the technical word denoting the Tsar's wife, as well as a female exercising royalty, and *Tsarévitch*, &c.

THE BEE,

OR

LITERARY WEEKLY INTELLIGNER,

FOR

WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 25. 1793

THOUGHTS ON WHAT IS CALLED *VARIETIES*, OR DIFFERENT BREEDS OF DOMESTIC ANIMALS, SUGGESTED BY READING DR PALLAS'S ACCOUNT OF RUSSIAN SHEEP—BY THE EDITOR.

J. A.
 THE only rule that has hitherto been adopted by naturalists to mark the distinction between a *species* and a *variety* is, that though different species of animals of the same genus may be brought to breed together, as the horse and the ass, yet the animals thus produced, are not prolific; whereas the progeny arising from an intermixture of different *varieties* of the same *species*, are themselves equally prolific as the parents from which they sprang. Adhering to this rule Dr Pallas, very properly, calls all the kinds of sheep yet known, only *varieties* of the same *species* of animal, because he has found that the mixed progeny of the whole are prolific.

Naturalists however have not stopped here. In their desire for simplification they have gone a step

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farther, and are now in general disposed to maintain that all the *varieties*, properly so called, have been produced by accidental deviations only from *one* parent animal, which they believe has originally constituted the whole of each individual *species*; they of course endeavour, in most cases, to condescend upon some one of these *varieties* as having been the original from which all the others have sprung. In both these last assumptions however, they seem to go farther than facts hitherto well authenticated can authorise them: they reason here at best only from *probabilities*; from which no inferences can be admitted as *certain*: and as there are probabilities, perhaps equally strong against the opinion they have adopted, as for it, the safest course in this case would seem to be, at least, to suspend our opinion for the present, and to decline drawing any certain conclusion, till the facts necessary for giving authenticity to any opinion shall have been fully ascertained.

Buffon, who is the least scrupulous of all modern naturalists, has been the most forward to decide in this, as in many other cases. He does not so much as condescend to admit that there can be a doubt in this case; but on all occasions assumes it as a certainty, that all the *varieties* of one *species* have been derived from *one* parent; and boldly raises upon that supposition many practical inferences, which if his theory should prove to be unfounded, might lead to very important errors; so that it is not a matter of idle curiosity to investigate this question.

Among the *varieties* of the same *species* of animals, we find very great and striking diversities in re-

spect of size, qualities, appearance, natural instincts and faculties. Between the largest sized mastiff dog for example, and the smallest lap dog, when both are well fed, and at full growth, the difference is not, I should suppose, less than as ten to one of absolute weight. The *hound*, properly so called, possesses the sense of smelling in the highest perfection, so that he pursues his game invariably by the scent. The *gaze hound* on the other hand, is perfectly destitute of that sense in regard to the discrimination of game,* and pursues it invariably by the eye only ; whence his name. The *pointer* and the *spaniel* though both possessing the sense of smelling in great perfection, as well as the *hound*, are endowed with instincts very different ; and exercise the sense of smell each in a way peculiar to its kind. The *pointer* and the *shepherd's dog* can be each taught their lesson in their own stile with equal facility ; but the one can never be brought farther than to act by a sort of mechanical impulse, steadily to one point, while the other can be taught to act in some measure like a reasoning animal, who is authorised to vary his conduct as circumstances require ; and does so accordingly in some cases with a cautious discretion, that exceeds

* Here a distinction takes place, somewhat analogous to what is observed to take place among men, with respect to the discrimination of musical sounds. A man may have the sense of hearing sufficiently acute, yet be totally destitute of *an ear for music*. The *grehound* too possesses, I believe, the sense of smelling in some cases sufficiently strong, yet is not able by that means to trace his game.

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even some of the human race*. Some varieties of dogs take to the water easily, while others avoid it with much care: Some only houl like the hound, others bark almost incessantly, as the lap dog; others like the grehound seldom let their voice be heard; and others, are entirely mute. To enumerate all the diversities would be tiresome; but this slight sketch ought to be sufficient to make one hesitate in admitting, without proof, that such prodigious diversities should all have been the progeny of one common parent.

Were these diversities only casual and apt to vary, it might be more easy for us to give faith to the hypotheses; but this is not the case. Experience hath fully proved, that any one breed may be kept perfectly uncontaminated for any length of time, with all its distinctive peculiarities entire, merely by pre-

* Of the sagacity of dogs many instances might be adduced; but none that I have ever met with can equal the following instances of the sagacity of a shepherd's dog; the owner himself having been hanged some years ago for sheep stealing, the following facts, among others respecting the dog, were authenticated by evidence on his trial:

When the man intended to steal any sheep, he did not do it himself, but detached his dog to perform the business. With this view, under pretext of looking at the sheep, with an intention to purchase them, he went through the flock with his dog at his foot, to whom he secretly gave a signal so as to let him know the individuals he wanted, to the number of perhaps ten or twelve, out of a flock of some hundreds; he then went away, and from a distance of several miles sent back the dog by himself in the night time, who picked out the individual sheep that had been pointed out to him,—separated them from the flock, and drove them before him by himself, for the distance of ten or twelve miles till he came up with his master, to whom he delivered up his charge.

venting an intermixture by copulation. Nor is this all: it is also known that if such intermixture be permitted, the descendants will undoubtedly be a mixed breed, evidently participating of the qualities and appearances of both its parents. Between a hound and a grehound, a mongrel breed is obtained which possesses the sense of smelling, though in a less degree than the one, and the faculty of fleetness in a less degree than the other, of its parents; and its whole external appearance evidently indicates at first sight, the compound of the stock from whence it has descended. The same thing is observable in every other mongrel breed: and after the distinctive qualities have been thus blended together, it does not seem possible ever to separate them, so as to obtain once more a breed from that progeny, which shall possess the original qualities of either of the parents *pure*. This may be indeed *nearly* effected, by crossing repeatedly with a pure individual, of the unmixed breed through many generations; by which means the qualities which were once *equally* blended, will become so unequally mixed, as that one of them shall not be discernible; just as an equal mixture of milk and water might, by frequent additions of pure water, have the milk so much diluted as to be totally imperceptible.

Now, in this last case, whether is it more natural for me to suppose, when I see the two fluids, milk and water, perfectly distinct, that these fluids were originally separate and distinct things, or to believe that both the milk and the water had been the same thing originally, and by some wonderful process, of which

we had seen no example, but much the reverse, had spontaneously separated, and in time become two distinct fluids, both of which we are sure, inevitably to lose, if ever they shall be suffered to mix together again? The production of distinct breeds of animals, is equally contradictory to the whole of the experience we have had in the breeding of domestic animals. It is easy for us when we please to adulterate any breed; but it totally exceeds our power after such adulteration to recover the pure breed again.

If, with a view to enlarge our ideas on this head, we go to vegetables, in regard to the varieties of which, philosophers entertain nearly the same opinions, we shall find among those that are called *varieties* very great diversities, so as to constitute several distinct classes.

In one class, for example, among which may be ranked the common potatoe, we find that plants obtained from seeds are disposed to sport infinitely; and none of the progeny can ever be expected to be found *exactly* of the same kind with the parent stock; so that if that stock be not propagated otherwise than by seeds, it will be lost never to be recovered.* Many plants belong to this class, as pinks, carnations, &c.

Another class of plants, which are equally stiled *varieties* are not liable to sport, or indeed to intermingle at all in breeding, but continue to propagate their own kind by seeds without variation. No

* See Bath society papers, vol. vi.

man I believe ever had a white pea from a gray, or a gray from a white. If white pease perfectly unmixed with gray are sown, it is well known the whole of the produce will be white, and so of gray: many plants also belong to this class.

A third class, like that of animals, may be raised by seeds either pure and unadulterated, or mixed and of a mongrel breed, at pleasure. Cabbages afford a noted instance of this sort: white or red cabbages may be reared from seeds without degenerating, for any length of time, if the two kinds be kept at a great distance from each other; but should a white cabbage be allowed to perfect its seeds in the neighbourhood of red cabbages producing seeds at the same time, a mongrel kind would rise from these seeds, which would not be pure white, nor distinct red, but a pale red compounded of the two. Early and late cabbages; which are very distinguishable from each other in several respects, besides earliness, are adulterated in the same manner. Savoys in like manner may be blended thus also with cabbages or other greens. In short, the peculiarities affecting this class of plants, are precisely similar to those affecting different breeds of dogs, and other animals; so that when once a mongrel breed has been obtained, there is no recovering the true sort, but by a fresh importation of uncontaminated seeds, though the mongrel sort may be preserved as long as you please by propagating it by itself.

The inference I would draw from these facts, (and other classes of plants might be named) is, that since we find naturalists have overlooked some very

obvious peculiarities of *plants*, which affect those diversities that have been called *varieties*, they may have in like manner overlooked other peculiarities that may occasion striking diversities among *animals*, which have been called *varieties*: and as this subject has never yet been thoroughly investigated, it behooves us to be cautious in admitting general conclusions.

With regard to dogs, which as being well known to every one, are a fit object for illustration, we see, that let a small lap dog, and a large mastiff be fed with the same food and tended with the same care, the one discovers no symptoms of increasing in size or diminishing it more than the other. Let them be carried from one country to another, they equally preserve their original distinctive qualities, without any farther change than the climate may perhaps produce; which equally seems to affect all the varieties of this animal. Never was there adopted an hypothesis more truly absurd than that of Buffon in this respect. Nor was there ever made such a barefaced attempt to try how far the credulity of mankind could lead them astray in deference to a great name, in direct contradiction to facts which fall immediately under the cognisance of every man who pleases but to open his eyes, and look right before him, as in those bold and unfounded assertions which he has been pleased to make, with regard to the transformation of dogs, from one variety into another. Yet these opinions have been inadvertantly transcribed many times by learned naturalists, without one symptom of doubt or hesitation.

The shepherd's dog Mr Buffon considers as the parent-stock from which all the different varieties have been produced, by a change of climate, education, food, and other circumstances. "This animal (he observes) still continues pretty nearly in its original state among the poor in temperate climates. Being transported into colder regions, he becomes smaller, as among the Laplanders; but becomes more perfect in Iceland, Russia, and Siberia, where the climate is less rigorous, and the people more civilized."——But if there is a difference in the dogs of these countries, it can scarcely be owing to the cause assigned; as the climate of Lapland is as mild as that of a great part of Siberia, and the inhabitants perhaps more civilized.

"The shepherd's dog, (he farther observes), if transported to temperate climates, and among people entirely civilized, such as England, France, or Germany, becomes divested of his savage air, his pricked ears, his long thick hair, and from the influence of climate and education will become a bull-dog, a mastiff, a beagle, or a hound."——But if this were the case, whence should it happen that we in Britain have the race of shepherd's dogs in as great perfection as any where else, and the mastiff, bull-dog, hound, &c. in equal perfection; and can preserve the breeds of each of these kinds as distinct from one another, as if they had been bred in the most distant corners of the earth?

"The hound, the terrie, and small-spotted setting-dog, he considers as of the same family; and asserts, that they are often all produced at the

same litter, although the bitch should have been covered with only one kind of dog."——I ask the reader, if ever he knew a single instance where this happened?

"The hound, (he farther observes), if transported into Spain or Barbary, where the hair of all animals becomes soft and long, will be converted into the land and water spaniel;—and when these are again brought back to Britain," instead of returning to their former state of a hound, "they become the small shaggy dog."——But who does not know, that spaniels continue to be bred in Britain for ages without degenerating in the smallest degree?

We have seen above, that the mastiff, bull-dog, beagle, and hound, to which may be added the terrier and small setting-dog, are all produced in Britain from the shepherd's dog transported from cold climates.——"But this mastiff dog, (he observes), "when carried to the north," deserts his original family, and "becomes the large Danish dog;—and "when transported to the south, becomes a greyhound. The same transported into Ireland, the "Ukrain, Tartary, Epirus, and Albania, becomes "the great wolf-dog, known by the name of the "*Irish dog*, which is the largest of all dogs." Thus he makes the shepherd's dog, when transported from the north to Britain, become a mastiff; and that again, when remanded back to the north, instead of returning to its original state of a shepherd's dog, becomes a large Danish dog;—which again brought back to Britain, its original country, instead of a

mastiff, becomes a greyhound; which by another change of climate, scarce perceptible, is metamorphosed into the large Irish dog.—These surprising transformations might figure very well in Ovid, but do not tally quite so well with the character of a philosophic natural historian.

“ The bull-dog, (he farther goes on), when transported into Denmark, becomes the little Danish dog; and this little Danish dog, sent into warm climates, becomes the Turkish dog without hair.”

—In the last paragraph, we saw the mastiff in a northern climate *encrease* in size, and become the large Danish dog:—here his brother the bull dog, by a like change of place, *dwindles* into the small Danish dog.—How it should happen, that the same change of climate should produce changes so diametrically opposite, remains to be explained.—When this little Danish dog, however is sent back to milder climates again, he does not recover his former size, or grow larger, like the mastiff; but by another metamorphosis, altogether as extraordinary, becomes the naked Turkish dog.—The hound, the full brother of this mastiff, we saw on a former occasion, when carried to the warm coast of Barbary, got a coat of longer hair, and became a spaniel; this one loses his hair entirely.

Can any thing be more contrary to reason, experience, and facts that every man has before his eyes every day in his life, than the above hypothesis!

It is humiliating for the pride of man, who plumes himself on the superiority of reason to re-

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mark this.—And it is mortifying for modern philosophy which affects to be founded on experience and accurate observation of facts alone, to point out such things: but truth ought in all cases to be adhered to.

To be continued.

IVAN CZAROWITZ,
OR THE ROSE WITHOUT PRICKLES, THAT STINGS NOT,

A TALE.
J. Brown
WRITTEN BY HER IMPERIAL MAJESTY.

Continued from p. 87, and concluded

Not far from this they spied the house of a peasant, surrounded by several acres of well cultivated ground, on which were growing several kinds of corn, as rye, oats, barley, buck wheat, &c. Some of this corn was ripening, and some only springing up. A little farther they saw a meadow on which horses, cows, and sheep were grazing. They found the landlord with a watering pan in his hand, with which he was watering the cucumbers and cabbages set by his wife. The children were employed in clearing away the useless weeds from among the garden stuffs. Rafsudok addressed them: "God be with you good people!" They answered, 'thank you young gentlemen; and they made a distant bow to the Czarowitz as to a stranger; but in a friendly manner they addressed Rafsudok: 'Be so kind as to go in-

to our dwelling : your mother the Sultana loves us, visits us, and does not neglect us.' * Rafsudok consented and with Ivan went into the yard. In the middle of the yard there stood an old and lofty oak, under which was a broad and clean scraped bench, with a table before it. The landlady and her daughter-in-law spread a table cloth, and placed on the table a bowl of butter milk, and another with poached eggs : they set down also a dish of hot pancakes, soft boiled eggs, and in the middle a good bacon ham. They brought brown bread, and set down to every one a can of sweet milk ; and by way of desert, presented fresh cucumbers, and cranberries, † with honey. The landlord pressed them to eat. The travellers, who were hungry, found every thing excellent, and during supper talked with the landlord and landlady, who told them how healthily, happily, and quietly they lived, and in all abundance suitable to their condition ; passing their time in country work, and overcoming every want and difficulty by industry. After supper they spread on the same bench mats, and Rafsudok and Ivan put their cloaks on the mats. The landlady gave to each a pillow with a clean pillow-slip ; so they lay down, and being tired they soon fell asleep.

* May not this have been meant as a disguised sketch of the august painter herself, who is said to be very condescending and kind to such of her subjects as are industrious, particularly in the line of agriculture.

† The berries named is kluickva, but as I don't know the English name I have substituted cranberries, brusnika.

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In the morning they got up at day break, and having thanked their landlord, who would have nothing for their lodging, they pursued their journey. Having got about half a mile, they heard the sound of the bag pipe. Ivan wanted to go nearer; but Rafsudok hinted that the bagpipe would lead them out of their way. Curiosity got the better of Ivan, and he went up to the bagpipe; but when he saw the mad pranks of disfigured drunkards staggering about the piper, he was terrified, and threw himself into the arms of Rafsudok, who carried him back to the road.

Having passed through a grove they saw a steep hill. Rafsudok told Ivan that the rose without prickles that stings not grew there. Ivan, oppressed with the heat of the sun, grew tired; he began to fret,—said there was no end to that road,—how far it is! and asked if they could not find a nearer way. Rafsudok answered, that he was carrying him the nearest way, and that difficulties are only to be overcome by patience. The Czarowitz in ill humour cried out; perhaps I shall find the way myself,—waved his hand, doubled his pace, and separated himself from his guide.

Rafsudok remained behind and followed slowly in silence. The child entered a market town where there were few who took notice of him, for it was a market day, and every body was engaged in business in the market place. The Czarowitz wandering among carts and noisy traders, began to cry. One person, who did not know him, passed by, and seeing him crying said to him: "Have done crying

you little whelp, without you we have noise enough here." At that very moment Rafsudok had overtaken him. The Czarowitz complained that they had called him whelp; Rafsudok said not a word but conducted him out of the crowd. When Ivan asked him why he did not talk with him as formerly, Rafsudok answered, " You did not ask my advice but went to an improper place, and so don't be offended if you did not find the people to your mind." Rafsudok wished to prolong his speech when they met a man, not over young, but of an agreeable appearance, surrounded with a great many boys. As Ivan was curious to know every thing, he called one of the boys, and asked who the man was. " This man is our master; said the boy, we have got our lesson and are going to take a walk * but pray where are you going?" The Czarowitz told him that they were seeking the rose without prickles, that stings not. " I have heard, said the boy, from our master, an explanation of the rose without prickles, that stings not. This flower signifies nothing more than virtue. Some people think to find it by going bye ways; but nobody can get it unless he follows the straight road; and happy is he that by an honest firmness can overcome all the difficulties of that road. You see before

* The Czarina may be supposed here also to allude to one of her own favourite institutions, that of free schools over all her dominions, on a plan equally simple and comprehensive, which my informant says has been attended with the happiest effects. I am promised an account of that useful institution which shall be laid before the readers of this work.

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“you the hill on which grows the rose without prickles that stings not; but the road is steep and full of rocks.” Having said this he took his leave and went after his master.

Ivan and his guide went straight to the hill, and found a narrow and rocky track on which they walked with difficulty. They there met an old man and woman in white, both of a respectable appearance, who stretched out their staffs to them and said, “support yourselves on our staffs and you will not stumble.” The people thereabouts told them that the name of the first was Honesty, and of the other Truth.

Having got to the foot of the hill, leaning on the staffs, they were obliged to scramble from the track by the branches, and so from branch to branch they got at length to the top of the hill, where they found the rose without prickles that stings not. They had no sooner pulled the flower, than music was heard in a neighbouring temple; and it was every where spread abroad that the Czarowitz Ivan at so tender an age had found the rose without prickles that stings not. He made haste to the Han with the flower, and the Han dismissed him to the Czar. The Czar was so well pleased with the arrival of the Czarowitz and his success, that he forgot all his anxiety and grief. The Czar, the Czarina and all the people became daily more fond of the Czarowitz, because he daily advanced in virtue. Here the tale ends, and who knows better, let him tell another.

SIR,

To the Editor of the Bee.

It will give me pleasure if this short paper shall appear to you worthy of a place in your useful miscellany.

A STRANGER.

A VISION.

DURING the troublesome times of the last century, a gentleman of the royal party was obliged from some private business, to travel into a distant part of the country. Being overtaken by a violent storm, he took shelter under the hospitable roof of a friend, with whom he had been familiarly acquainted in the early period of life. After a comfortable refreshment, and a short account of what had befallen him since the time of their separation, he turned the conversation to politics, and expressed with much force and animation, his apprehensions of the total destruction of Great Britain. Benevolus, (for such was the name of his kind entertainer,) heard him with pleasure, and joined in execrating those scenes to which they had been constrained to bear witness. But, added this good man, I am persuaded, that all will yet be well,—that from the anarchy and confusion which now desolate our borders, there will arise a constitution more perfect than has ever fallen to the lot of any people. Upon seeing astonishment spread itself on the countenance of his guest, he proceeded to check the doubt which had begun to rise in his mind.

“ Although I am not the dupe of superstition, nor apt to be deceived by the creatures of imagina-

tion, yet the circumstance which I am now to relate, made a deep and indelible impression on my mind. One evening, a few weeks ago, I was meditating on the distracted and melancholy state of the nation. My thoughts were insensibly carried farther. I considered the condition of man under the various forms of government which have existed. I viewed him groaning under the yoke of despotism. I saw the inhabitants of a large country, the slaves of one insignificant fellow creature, compelled to receive his will as a law, forced to obey the most tyrannical mandates. I beheld the innocent man dragged from his family, denied an opportunity of vindicating himself from the accusations of his enemies, perishing under the stroke of the executioner. I beheld the good citizen, who by honest industry, had gained a competent fortune, deprived of the fruit of his labours, and thrown without a friend upon a hard hearted world.

"Tired with this shocking picture, I turned to one of an opposite kind. I saw a people uncontrolled by authority a prey to unbounded licentiousness. My blood froze with horror. Thousands fell butchered at the pleasure of a demagogue. Virtue hid its head. Every thing sacred was trampled under foot.

"I thought on Sparta. Its harsh restraint, ill suited to the nature of man, far less to the manners of the present time, filled me with disgust. I looked on Athens the seat of the arts. There continual factions raged; merit and patriotism were the infallible conductors to ignominy and ruin. Rome, the mistress of the world, struggled with internal dif-

sention. They who started the friends of the plebeians, allured by the prospects that flattered ambition, too often betrayed their cause, and joined issue with their cruel oppressors.

“ My spirits were now sunk in the deepest dejection. Is man, I exclaimed, born to be the sport of misery ;—must the social union be cemented only by blood ?

“ The weight that hung over my mind overcame me, and I fell into a profound sleep. While wrapped in it, a female more beautiful than the daughters of men seemed to stand before me. Sweetness beamed from her countenance ; music flowed from her tongue. After casting on me a look of ineffable mildness, she thus broke silence. The angel of liberty, O mortal, has come from heaven to soothe thy troubled soul, to wipe from thy breast the impressions made by the past, by shewing you what is yet to come. Long, employed in higher regions, have I resisted the prayers of the sons of the dust, and deigned not to look on this terrestrial scene. But ere long, will I return to thy happy land, and pour down upon its inhabitants the richest of my blessings. Guided by my influence, its monarch shall no longer wish to sway the sceptre of oppression. His will be the delightful task of defending and protecting his subjects, as a father the children of his love. The nobles, under whose rod thy ancestors were humbled, shall forget their haughty insolence, and guard alike the rights of the sovereign and the people. The commons, conscious of their dignity, shall lift their voice,—shall guard by their wise decrees the happiness they enjoy, shall give to the ne-

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 cessities of the state from their inexhaustible treasures. In every prayer, that ascends to heaven, those in every class will pour forth their gratitude, that it has been given them to live under a British constitution. Those mighty nations to whom this island now appears contemptible, will regard it with wonder and envy,—will admire and wish for that prosperity, for that true liberty, which they will long be unable to attain. While thankfulness warms the breasts of *British subjects*, I will be their friend and protector: but if in the height of their glory, they murmur and repine; if duped by art, they listen to those who would wish to destroy them, soon will I leave them forever,—soon will they be plunged in calamity from which they never will emerge.”

While I was striving to throw myself at the feet of the goddess I awoke.

July 11. 1793.

GIVES.

ON THE VALUE AND USES OF THE LARCH TREE.

Continued from p. 16.

For making dwelling houses.

MR HARTE in his essays on husbandry, enumerates many of the uses to which this wood is applied in Carniola and Carinthia, where the larch tree abounds; but none of those he mentions, conveys such a delightful idea of the benefits we might derive from it, did it here abound, as his description of a Carniolian cottage, and the conveniencies the inhabitants derive from this wood when compared

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with the hovels that the poor people in many parts
of Britain, are obliged to content themselves with.

A Carniolian cottage, which may last without
standing in need of any repairs for centuries, is thus
reared. A beam of larch wood is squared and laid
lengthwise in a small trench, made where the wall
is to be reared, as far as the wall is meant to ex-
tend. Another beam of equal length is also squa-
red, though of somewhat smaller dimensions, intend-
ed to form the top of the wall. Other beams are
then squared and cut into equal lengths, the height
of the intended wall. Upon each of these beams
which are intended to stand upright close by the
side of each other, and thus form the wall, are cut a
tenon at each end, and into the beam at bottom are
cut mortises, to receive these tenons at proper dis-
tances, and corresponding mortises in the beam
which is to be put at top. The uprights are then
put into the mortises in the sole beam, and leav-
ing a blank for the door; and cutting the uprights
at a proper height for windows, the top beam is put
on above, and the whole driven down tight. Thus
is formed one of the walls. The others are com-
pleted after the same manner with wonderful neat-
ness and facility. Couples of the same wood are then
placed on the walls to form the roof; and the whole
is lathed over, and covered in with cingles of the
same wood. The work is then finished. In a little
time there oozes out from the pores of the wood, a
kind of juice, at first brownish, which gradually be-
comes black. This serves as a kind of varnish,
which at the same time fills up all the small cran-
dies so as to cement the whole into one mass, which

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is equally impervious to rain and wind: nor is it
in danger of catching fire; for if a flaming billet
were laid upon the roof, it would not be inflamed,
but would resist fire till the billet was entirely
consumed. I can form no idea of an habitation that
could be obtained at a small expence for a poor
man, which could in any degree be compared with
this one.

Flooring, joisting, &c.

Enough has been said already to prove that no
wood known in this part of the world, is so proper as
the *larix* for joists, rafters, and beams of every sort,
where strength, lightness, and durability are wanted
in build ings. In all these points of view it is much
preferable to any kind of fir; and being a quicker
grower, and more easily reared, it ought to be af-
forded at least as cheap as fir wood.

When sawed into deals, it is still in a higher de-
gree to be preferred for flooring, because it shrinks
much less, and is not nearly so liable to be set
on fire; not to mention its greater durability: so that
there is no reason to doubt, but as soon as it comes
to be sufficiently known, it will be invariably sub-
stituted instead of fir for these purposes.

Windows, and doors, coach pannelling, &c.

Sashes for windows are the most expensive part
of an ordinary dwelling house at present, because
no durable material has yet been discovered, of which
the *soles* of the windows, especially, can be made, so
that they stand in need of frequent repairs. In old
times these were made of oak; but experience has
discovered that oak when exposed to the vicissitudes
of weather, is as perishable as fir; which last, as

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being cheaper, is now invariably applied to that use. The larix on account of its incorruptibility is precisely the thing wanted; and because it neither shrinks, nor warps, nor splits, it is rendered peculiarly proper for doors and other pannelled works, where neatness and closeness are required, especially in such situations where great thickness or weight would be improper. It is therefore superior to mahogany, and every other known wood for panneling coaches, and other light thin works of the same kind.

Machinery.

It is of so much consequence for the true going of machinery, to have it made of wood that will not warp, that the operators find themselves in general reduced to the necessity of making these for the most part of mahogany; the price of which being thus enhanced, from the great consumption of this article, it becomes a heavy additional charge to the expence of erecting extensive manufactures. But as larch wood shrinks and warps less than mahogany, and is stronger and more durable, while it may be afforded at less than one tenth of the price, whenever it comes into general use for this purpose it will be a great national advantage.

Barrel staves.

Much money is sent out of Britain annually for barrel staves, and heading, which as soon as larch wood becomes common, will no longer be necessary; as it is in every respect better calculated for that purpose than any other known wood in Europe. Not only in regard to diminishing the first cost will

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this be a great saving *; but a much greater benefit will be derived from the diminution in regard to leakage that this will produce; for as the kinds of wood that have been hitherto employed for this purpose, are more liable to be affected by the vicissitudes of the weather than it is, the leakage in larix casks will be greatly less than in others. For these reasons, in regard to valuable liquors especially, the benefit to be derived from larix casks would be immense.

If ever the herring fisheries be allowed to go forward in Scotland, this will be an important improvement to them; as it might be reared in the Highlands in immense quantities, at scarcely any expence.

Ship building.

In regard to ship building, larch wood possesses advantages above all others, that ought to render it almost an object of idolatry to the British nation.

It is established upon very good authority, that it resists the worm much more in warm climates than any other European wood. It is much more durable than oak, — is lighter, and shrinks much when used as plank, so as to require less caulking, — is less apt to fly into splinters during an engagement, and less liable to take fire. These qualities point it out as superior to British oak itself for *plank* for ship building; and as it can be reared on any soil,

* On account of the less price of larix than other staves, the saving to a porter brewer, including tuns and casks, on first entering upon business in London, would not be less than several thousand pounds.

and almost in any situation, and grows much more rapidly than any other kind of wood, should ever the culture of this tree become as general as it ought to be, it will render this nation wholly independent of all others for the important article of ship timber. For although bended ribs, and kneed joints are essential articles in the timbers for the construction of vessels on the plan universally adopted at present, yet a time may come, and is probably at no great distance, when it will be found that crooked timber is not in the smallest degree requisite for the construction of vessels for any purpose whatever; and if ever that time does come, it will be discovered also, that the timbers as well as the plank may be made entirely of larch wood. At Archangel in Russia, where this timber abounds, we are informed that no other wood is employed for ship building, and that also at Venice, according to Mr Ritchie British resident there*.

Many other uses to which this timber might be applied could be here enumerated; but the above are sufficient to convince every one, that if the larch tree can be reared easily, and grows with rapidity in this country, it ought to become an object of universal attention; and that the culture of it should be pushed forward as quickly as possible; for every moment of delay must be a retardment of the prosperity of this country. In a future paper I shall beg leave to offer a few remarks on the mode of rearing this timber, and the benefits that may be derived from it as an object of culture.

* Memoirs of the society of arts London, vol. vii.

POETRY.

FALSE PLEASURE, A FRAGMENT.

Dea saeva potentibus herbis.

VIRG.

———Envious of mankind ;
When blest'd with equal rule their virtues rise,
And blossom and produce the fruits of love,
Concord and friendship and serene delight ;
By fiends deputed, envious of mankind,
Th' offspring of luxury, false pleasure speeds
To blast the beautiful scene. In gay attire
She comes with winning gesture, and her speech
Flows sweetly musical. O bar your ears
Against the dire enticement : nor allow
Her thrilling lay to gain and steep your hearts
In the lewd extacy. Whoever yields
To the soft dittied strain, shall rue, ere long,
With sore contrition : or, all sense of right
Raz'd from his soul, shall glory in a shape
Transform'd to brutal. For the witching song
Lures the free spirit from her lofty course
And tow'ring progress 'mid aerial tracts,
Dashes and soils her plumage, that erewhile
Shone like th' Arabian phoenix, in the mire
And filth of sordid passion. Then adieu,
The lib'ral aim ! Corruption, festring deep,
Grapples with cancr'ring fang, the heart that heaves
Reluctant, soon in ev'ry cell and pore
To gush with livid venom.—In those days
The pleading eye of Pity ; Mercy's smile :
Truth's lofty forehead challenging the storm,
That on its marble, like the breath of even,
Sighs ineffectual : Fortitude that grasps
A mountain oak, and marches firm athwart
The fury of a flood ; th' ingenuous blush
That tinges with unbitten glow, the cheek
Of meek eye'd Modesty ; and th' attractive grace
Of sprightly Temperance, no longer charm
Th' empassion'd breast ; nor gain deserv'd applause ;
Nor kindle sympathetic fires ; nor wake
The wish to imitate, and win like charms,
And clothe the soul with honour. All those arts
That tend t' enoble and refine the mind,
Languish neglected. Thou informing power !
Thou genius of affecting song ! thou soul
Of ev'ry gen'rous art ! by whom alone

The heart while melted is enlarg'd, released
 From grov'ling bondage, fill'd with daring might;
 O virtue! when the tainted breast nor feels
 Thy grandeur, nor thy loveliness; but seeks
 The frivolous, the dazzling, and the vain;
 Adieu the manly thought, th' intrepid mind;
 And thou, fair Liberty, adieu!—Awake,
 Ye sons of song, wake from th' unfeeling trance,
 And hurl the lightning of bold verse! Defend
 The fane of holy freedom! for I deem
 Whate'er of pleasing or sublime adorns
 Or elevates the tuneful lay, depends
 On that protecting power. When servile fear
 Hangs on the drooping spirit, when restraint
 Bars from the loveliest, sublimest theme;—
 Bars from the praise of virtue; and when pride,
 Exalted, insolent and vain, requires
 Th' applauding strain; enervated and mean
 Creep the cold numbers. Sweep the mighty lyre
 Undaunted, and the sons of other times
 Your song shall venerate, and write your name
 High in the record of immortal fame.

JULIANA.

VERSES TO A LADY,
 WITH THE GENTLE SHEPHERD.

Fair lady this affecting lay peruse,
 The genuine offspring of the Doric muse:
 The muse erewhile on Caledonia's plains
 That charm'd the forests with mellifluous strains.
 Copious and clear where Leven glides along:
 Where Tweda listens to the shepherd's song:
 Where Spey impetuous pours his rapid tide;
 Or in the valley of Commercial Clyde:
 By winding Forth, or by the silver Tay,
 Warbling she welcomed the return of May.
 Cold now the hands, extinct the heavenly fire
 That waked to extacy the living lyre.
 No more the energy of song prevades,
 Our silent valleys and forsaken glades;
 No more the green hill and the deepening grove
 Resound the longing, languid voice of love.
 For Hamilton the loves and graces mourn;
 And tuneful muses weep at Ramsay's urn.

A. L.

THE SOLITUDES.

Continued from p. 72 and concluded.

CREATED for sorrow, and tears, we wander here below in the midst of shades, in a night without stars. It is beyond the tomb that day lightens. To what givest thou the name of pleasure, unhappy mortal? Observe narrowly the dazzling scenes of life,—thou wilt only see a cloth on which error has thrown colours without brightness: the fool admires it, the sage considers it with indifference; sometimes it amuses him but it never deceives him. . . .

But does not humanity offer more eminent pleasures? are they all like those of the frivolous young man, or of the prince without merit. No, sweet pleasures, confidents of virtue, follow the steps of the retired sage, who, too great for the confusion of the earth, passes his days in the bottom of a peaceful valley, far from the tumult of cities, in the arms of a tender wife. Transported with joy, when the morning animates the meadows, he slowly traverses the smiling groves: animated with a secret gaiety, he contemplates the flowers, which seem to smile upon him: insensibly the objects around lead him to the throne of the Creator. In his religious and profound contemplation, his soul darts beyond this criminal globe. His affectionate spouse presents herself before him; they embrace tenderly; tears of joy run down their glowing cheeks. The invisible angels who surround them, see with a celestial joy that God has permitted man to taste a felicity almost equal to their own. . . . In the evening, when a copious dew has moistened the fields, he again wanders out into the valley, his eyes raised to the

star of night,—who, serene and calm as his heart, casts her gentle rays on him. At last he takes his lyre,—he sings the praise of the almighty, and his accents spread afar, across the darkness and the silence of the forests. A second time Doris comes to find him in the valley: calm as a fine evening, and serene as the summer's night, they return to their rural habitation and fall asleep in the midst of repose: Thus slept Adam in the arms of his innocent wife, whilst, guarded by angels, inhabited delicious Eden. . . . Where shall I find the pleasures which I have been painting? Where is the wise man happy? and how long does his felicity endure? Alas! we may perhaps soon see him bathing, with his tears, the tomb of his beloved wife. Spring no longer flourishes for him; his lyre is become mute; he detests the light of day—the shades of night increase his grief; he sighs, he wishes for the moment that will unite his ashes to those of his dear Doris.

But if heaven should spare him: if tears of sorrow never bath'd his eyes, would he be insensible to the misfortunes of others,—to the misfortunes of his friends? Would he see with an indifferent eye virtue in distress? Ah! if he has a feeling heart, how can he be happy here below? and if he has not, how can he take the name of wise. Alas! for one happy incident, how many scenes of sorrow there are in the stage of life! There a furious warrior destroys the master pieces of an artist, who thought to live to immortality: the villager sees all his hopes rise in the smoke of his consuming cabin. In vain in his despair does he raise his innocent hands to heaven. The timid virgin is cruelly snatched from the arms of her mother by licentious soldiers; she implores the assistance of her lover; but her lover is no more. He quitted her to seek glory in the fields of war. He has there fallen; and in dying he

still pronounced the loved name of his mistress. She feels her heart inflamed by a sublime despair : a dagger snatches her soul from the earth, and her body from infamy. The soul darts to heaven ; the body falls without being profaned ; a peaceful tomb incloses it. . . . In better worlds, her soul will find that of her young lover.

But what pleasure hast thou, unhappy young man, in tracing this picture of crimes and of sorrows ? Alas ! hast thou not enough of evils of thine own ? why increase them with foreign ills, which thy imagination still heightens ? What is become of those sweet and smiling images which youth and hope presented to you in an agreeable background ! Those brilliant visions of a happy futurity have disappeared. . . . The ideas which made thy happiness are dissipated like the dream of the summer's night. Thy youth passes : time will soon have devoured the last moment of it. Already thy days of sickness and distress are come. Thou wilt pass the rest of thy days in a sad servitude ; and thou wilt die unknown. Fools will pass without emotion near the tomb where thou wilt repose.— But when wilt thou repose ? How many days poisoned with chagrin and melancholy await thee still ! Who knows even, if fate in anger may not snatch thy lyre from thee ? thy lyre, the last and sweetest consolation of thy life. . . . Adieu, my friends ! don't refuse me the last marks of friendship : grant me a few tears.

Sweet, deceitful hope ! Liberty which I have lost and which has cost me so many tears ! Adieu. . . .

Ye groves who hear my plaints, if ever a young man of sensibility comes to wander under your shades, tell him (whilst your silence will have thrown him into poetic reveries, and a secret emotion shall have laid hold of his heart) tell him that a young man came also to repose and

weep in these places. . . . O thou who walkest with a slow pace, absorbed in deep thought, listen to the low voice that speaks to thee from afar. "On that tender moss which thou tramplest at present with thy foot, reposed, thought, and sighed, a young man, to whom nature had granted, as to thee, an upright tender soul, susceptible of the most sublime enthusiasm. If thou lovest virtue, thou art his friend: give him your regret. His life passed here in silence and obscurity, as thou seest this rivulet flow. Now his spirit dwells in happier worlds." Ah! when thou shalt occupy thyself with these thoughts, may a religious and compassionate tear run slowly down thy cheek! may thy heart, sensible and big with sighs, rise!—Ah, mayest thou possess his lyre and a better fortune!

In the mean time glide on in a gentle languor, O my hours! conduct soon this soul to the regions of blessed spirits, among whom Serena is ready to receive me. O death, wished for end of human miseries, come!

But what voice rises in the bottom of my heart? . . . "Banish the criminal wishes of the impatience of mortals: thou complainest wretch, thou callest on death, and why?" "To be happy. . . . It is the desire of nature!" . . . "It is too great for the earth. Mortal! beyond the tomb be happy; but on this side, be wise. Thou seest millions of thy fellows suffer, and dost thou think thyself alone worthy to be happy? Thou shalt be so. Wait with patience. Let affliction correct thy heart. Cares are for vice. Suffer! Serena sees thee, and blesses thy sufferings."

Immortal voice of my conscience, I will obey thee; I wish to feel and suffer my misfortune. Slavery reigns here below; liberty dwells in the regions of Serena. . . . I wish to repose here, where the noise of a profane people troubles me not. O solitudes, receive me into

your bosom, that your profound calm may pass into my soul! Here nature sleeps; all is calm except this spring which descends murmuring from the top of that savage rock. I will not disturb this vast repose by criminal complaints; I will be silent, but I will shed tears. Ah! without tears where should I find a mitigation of my sorrows? Thus religious patience, peaceful in sadness, sits on a marble tomb, and supports the weight of grief!

NEW IMPROVEMENTS.

By his last dispatches from Gothenburg, the Editor has received intelligence of some very important improvements there in domestic economy, chiefly respecting the saving of fuel in that northern climate. These are,

1. an improved kiln for drying malt, &c.

This kiln is so constructed as,

1. To save a great proportion of fuel: as not much more than half the quantity that is usually required will perform the same work.

2. There is no possibility of setting it on fire; so that all the houses connected with such a kiln are perfectly safe in this respect.

3. The malt, or any thing else thus dried cannot be affected with the smoke of fuel in the smallest degree; so that it is a matter of indifference whether that fuel be peat or coal, or wood, or brush of any kind; all of which may be used indifferently.

4. This kiln is so constructed as to act at the same time as a kind of stove at pleasure during cold weather, so as to prevent the cold from operating as a check to the progress of malting, &c. in cold regions.

5. It also admits of being loaded and unloaded at a smaller expence than in buildings of the usual construction.

My informant says this is not a mere theoretic idea ; for he has seen it actually carried in part into execution, where it has been found to answer perfectly, in as far as has been tried ; he has also seen the whole of the drawings, by means of which he understands the principle, and thinks when fully executed it is so simple as not to be liable to be put out of order, and must be very lasting ; so that he conceives it to be a very material improvement.

2. *An improved baker's oven.*

This is merely an extension of the principle applied above, adapted to the form of an oven, and possesses all the advantages above stated ; viz, saving of fuel ; preservation of the bread pure and uncontaminated either by the smoke or ashes of the fuel. It admits moreover of having the heat raised or moderated at pleasure, so as to adapt it precisely to the purpose required at the time.

No contrivance, our informant thinks, has ever yet been invented equal to these two for drying all kinds of green vegetables, or evaporating moisture for any purpose in arts. In the kiln the evaporation can be carried on as slowly as may be wanted ; and it may be easily so constructed as either to have the benefit of the rays of the sun, or the shade ; as may be most requisite ; and in the oven the exsiccation can be pushed as far as can be necessary for any purpose. In both cases a contrivance is adopted for carrying off the damp air as it arises from the substances drying

3. *An economical chamber stove.*

This is merely an improvement of the chamber stove already in universal use in Sweden, which, he thinks, might be introduced with great propriety among the poor in Britain, where much fuel is spent unnecessarily. These

are very elegantly formed of stone ware, for the apartments of the rich, and are an ornamental piece of furniture. But were the principle of this improvement explained, and illustrated by drawings, it could be constructed of brick at a small expence for the poorest cottage, so as to render these much more comfortable habitations than they are at present, with a very small consumption of fuel.

Our informant adds that he has no doubt but the inventor would be ready to communicate the drawings of all the three to any person who inclined to purchase them, at a reasonable price.

A NEW IMPROVEMENT IN THE ART MILITARY.

THE following paragraph lately appeared in the news papers. "The art of war has undergone a total change within these few years. Battles are no longer decided by horse and foot, but by artillery. the *mounted artillery* have, by their rapid movements, gained several important advantages to the French. The Germans have adopted this improvement; both Hessians and Hanoverians have *horse artillery* with the army."

Few people know what is meant by the phrases *mounted artillery* and *horse artillery*, and therefore are at a loss to understand the purport of this paragraph. The following explanation will probably be acceptable to them.

Several years ago a gentleman, a native of Scotland, [he was neither trained a matross, nor bred at the academy of Woolwich] discovered an ingenious device by which he was enabled to remove the effects hitherto experienced from what has been called the *recoil* of cannon when fired. By this means a gun carrying a ball, not exceeding four pounds, can be fired upon a litter, supported between two horses, without being let down; and guns of a larger

size, without any wheel carriages, carried also on a kind of litter, by a greater number of horses, can be let down and fired *on any ground*, and quickly taken up again and carried off if need be. It is these pieces that are distinguished by the above terms.

This invention was first offered to be discovered to the board of artillery in Britain many years ago; but altho' the late general Roy, who had seen the experiments made with these guns, and understood the principle on which they were constructed, greatly approved of them, yet the noble duke at the head of the ordnance board persisted in rejecting them; because, *in his opinion*, nobody but a *professional* man could understand the principles of artillery!!!

The inventor was afterwards in France; when he communicated the secret to la Fayette, who grasped at it as a discovery of the utmost importance in the art of war, to whoever should first avail themselves of it. From Fayette Dumourier, as I may say, inherited it; and it was chiefly to this circumstance that he himself attributed the decisive victory he obtained at the battle of Jemappe, without which he was confident that all his efforts would have proved vain. Every advantage the French have since gained in the field, the allies have been conscious could be ascribed to no other cause; as the French troops were in every other respect greatly inferior to those opposed to them. Having gained possession of some of these kinds of artillery, the allies, it now appears, have adopted them. It does not seem that Prince Cobourg has thought they should be rejected though not invented *by a professional man*. And he will now be able to fight the French with their own weapons, and thus meet them on equal terms.

This invention could be applied to some other uses, which, in the present situation of things, if adopted, might probably prove in a very short time decisive of the war.

THE INDIAN COTTAGE,

A TALE. *Cremon*
Continued from page III.

"EVER since that time I have frequented only the suburbs of Delhi. Thence I saw the stars enlightening the abodes of men, and confounded with their fires, as if the sky and the city were only the same domain. When the moon poured her beams upon the scene, I perceived other colours than those of the day. I admired the towers, the houses, and the trees, at once silvered and covered with shades, which I saw reflected to a great distance on the waters of the Gemma. I traversed at liberty the solitary and silent quarters of the city which then seemed wholly my own. Meanwhile mankind would have refused me a handful of rice, so odious had religion rendered me. Not being able therefore to find the means of subsistence among the living, I sought it among the dead; I went to the tombs to eat the viſtials presented by the pious relations at the graves of the deceased.

"In those places I loved to meditate. I said to myself, "Here is the city of peace: here power and pride disappear; innocence and virtue are safe: here all the cares and fears of life are dead; even the fears of death are forgot. This is the inn where the traveller takes up his lodging for ever; and here the paria finds a place of repose." During such meditations, I despised the world, and thought death a thing to be desired. I considered the east, where each moment a multitude of stars were rising. Although their destinations were unknown to me, I perceived that they were connected with those of the human race, and that nature which had caused to assemble, for the relief of their wants, so many objects that they never see, had no less attached to them those that she presents to their view. My soul therefore ascended the skies with the stars; and when Aurora began to join to their sweet and eternal brightness, her rosy tints, I believed myself at the gates of heaven. But as soon as her fires gilded the spires of the pagodas I vanished like a shade; I went away to repose myself far from men, in the fields, at the foot of a tree, where the birds with their songs lulled me asleep."

"Sensible and unfortunate man, said the Englishman, your story is very affecting. Believe me the most part of cities should be seen only

by night. After all nature has beauties belonging to the night, which are not less charming than those of the day; a famous poet, a countryman of mine, has made them his sole theme in one of his works. But tell me, how did you find means to render yourself happy during the day.

"It was a good deal gained to be happy during the night, replied the Indian. Nature resembles a fine lady, who during the day exhibits the beauties of her face only to the public, and who during the night unveils all her charms to her lover. But if solitude has its enjoyments, it has also its privations. To the unfortunate, solitude seems a calm harbour, whence he can view the passions of other men blow over without being disturbed by them; but while he congratulates himself on his own unruffled tranquillity, time hurries him along its current. We can never cast anchor in the river of life; it carries along with equal rapidity, the man who struggles against the stream, as it does him who suffers himself to be carried along, the wise as well as the foolish; and both arrive at the end of their days, the one after having abused life, and the other without having known how to enjoy it. I did not wish to be wiser than nature, nor to find my happiness beyond the limits she has prescribed to man. I wished above all things to gain a friend to whom I might communicate my pleasures and my pains. I sought one long among my equals; but I found only persons actuated by envy. Meanwhile I found one, sensible, grateful, faithful, and inaccessible to prejudice; indeed he was not one of the human species,—it was this dog that you see. They had exposed him, when a little whelp, at the corner of a street where he was ready to die of hunger. I was touched with pity for the poor creature; I reared him, he attached himself to me, and became my inseparable companion.—That was not enough, I wanted a friend more unhappy than a dog; one acquainted with all the evils of human society, and who might assist me in supporting them; one, who should desire only the blessings of nature, and with whom I might enjoy them. It is only by sheltering each other mutually, and uniting their branches, that two tender young trees resist the storm. Providence crowned my desires in giving me a virtuous wife. It was in the source of my misfortunes that I found that of my happiness.

"One night that I was at the burial place of the brahmins, I perceived by the light of the moon, a young female brahmin half covered with her yellow veil. At the sight of a woman of the kindred of my tyrants, I started back with horror; but returned through compassion

when I observed how she was employed. She was setting a vessel, with some victuals, upon a hillock, which covered the ashes of her mother, who had lately been burnt alive, along with the corpse of her father, according to the practice of her cast; and she was burning incense there, to recal her shade. The tears rushed into my eyes at seeing a person more unhappy than myself. I said to myself, alas! I am bound with the bonds of infamy, but thou with those of glory. At least I live undisturbed at the foot of my precipice; thou still tremblest on the verge of thine. The same destiny that has carried off thy mother, threatens one day to carry off thee also. Thou hast received only one life, and thou must die two deaths. If thy own death does not cause thee go down to the grave, that of thy husband will drag thee thither, though still alive. I was weeping, and she was weeping. Our eyes bathed in tears met each other, and spoke like those of the unfortunate; she turned away hers, wrapt herself in her veil, and retired.

The following night, I returned to the same place. She had set a greater store of provisions on her mother's tomb. She had judged that I stood in need of them; and as the brahmuns often poison the victuals they place on the graves of the dead, to prevent the parias from eating, to show me that I needed be under no apprehension of danger in using her's, she had brought fruits only. I was affected by this mark of humanity; and in order to testify the respect I bore to her filial offering, instead of taking away her fruits I added flowers. These were poppies, to express the share I took in her grief. The following night I saw, with joy, that she had approved my homage; the poppies were watered; and she had set at a little distance from the tomb a new basket of fruits. Pity and gratitude gave me courage: yet not daring to speak to her as a paria, for fear of shocking and displeasing her; I attempted, as a man, to express to her all the affection which she caused to spring up in my soul. According to the practice of the Indies, to make myself understood, I borrowed the language of flowers. To the poppies I added marigolds*. The following night I found my poppies and marigolds well watered. The night after, I became still bolder; I added to the poppies and marigolds, sumach, which tanners use to dye their leather black, as the expression of my humble, and unhappy passion. Next morning after the dawn, I ran to the tomb; but I saw the sumach quite withered, for it had not been watered.

* The same word signifies either marigold or care.

The following night trembling I put down a tulip; its red leaves and black heart expressed the fires which consumed mine. Next day I found my tulip in the same state with the sumach. I was greatly distressed; however on the morrow I brought a rose bud with its prickles, as the symbol of my hopes, accompanied with many fears. But what was my despair when with the first return of the early dawn, I saw my rose bud far from the tomb! I thought I should have lost my reason. Whatever might happen I resolved to speak to her. Next night as soon as she appeared, I threw myself at her feet. But I was quite deprived of the powers of utterance while I presented my rose. She replied, "Unfortunate man, thou talkest to me of love, whilst in a short time I shall be no more. Like my mother I must accompany to the funeral pile my husband just now dead. He was advanced in years: I was wedded to him when a child: adieu! retire and forget me: in three days nothing will remain of me but a little ashes." While speaking these words she sighed. For my part, pierced with grief, I said to her, 'Unhappy Brahminess, nature has broken asunder the bands that united thee to society; break instantly those of superstition also. You can do this by taking me for your husband.' "What, replied she weeping, should I escape death to live with thee in thy disgrace! Ah! if thou lovest me, leave me to die." "God forbid, cried I, that I should draw you from the evils into which you are about to plunge yourself: only to plunge you in mine: dear Brahminess, let us flee to the depth of the forest, it is much safer to trust to tigers than to men. But that God in whom I trust, he will not forsake us. Let us flee: love, the night, thy unhappy situation, thy innocence, every thing favour us. Let us make haste, unfortunate widow, already the funeral pile is preparing for thee, and thy dead husband calls thee thither. Poor fallen vine, support thyself on me, I shall be thy palm tree." Here sighing she cast a look on her mother's tomb, then towards heaven, and letting one of her hands fall into mine, with the other she took my rose. Instantly I took hold of her arm, and we set out. I threw her veil into the Ganges, to make her relations think that she had drowned herself. We travelled several nights along the banks of the river, concealing ourselves in fields of rice by day. At last we arrived in this part of the country, which war had formerly laid waste. I pierced into the heart of this wood, where I built this hut, and planted a little garden. We live here very happily; I revere my wife like the sun, and I love her like the moon. In this solitude we are to each other all the world. We are indeed despised by the world, but as

we have a mutual esteem for each other, the praises I give her, or those I receive from her, seem sweeter than the applause of a nation." Speaking these words he cast a look on his child in the cradle, and another on his wife who was shedding tears of joy.

To be continued.

TO CORRESPONDENTS.

THE communication by *Criticus* is thankfully received; and shall be inserted with the first convenience. It is rather longish.

The same thing will apply to *Allegorica*, with this difference, that it is shorter.

The observations of a *City Traveller*, are also received. It would be well if all travellers would make as good use of their opportunities of observation.

It is a great many months since *W. E.* sent notice that he was to transmit an essay on a day specified; the day is long since past. Lest it may have been sent and lost by the way, the Editor takes this mode of informing him that it has never come to his hand. It probably often happens that the Editor is thus accused of neglecting correspondents without any blame on his part.

The elegant translation of Lomonosof's beautiful oration on Peter the great is received, and shall appear as soon as circumstances will permit.

The Editor acknowledges with shame on his part, that he had very inadvertently mislaid the first communication by *H. E.* having put it by till he should get an opportunity of making the necessary inquiries; which not having been able to do very soon, it entirely escaped his notice. His second favour is received. The seeds inclosed are not in the least of the nature of the Botany Bay plant which was mistaken for a pine. Those sent were often brought from India and China before Botany Bay was discovered. They are employed for the purpose of marking linens in the east Indies, and make a very durable black stain that does not burn the cloth. It is an object well worthy of farther illustration.

It is amazing this fruit in quantities never should have been brought to Europe as an article of traffic; for it might certainly be applied to some valuable uses in arts.

*** The plate that accompanies this number is the fourth in the series of *Russian sheep &c.* and is described, *Bee*, vol. xvi, p. 312.

Fig. 1 and 2, horns of *agagrus*, or wild goat. Fig. 3, horn of the Siberian *Ibex*.

THE BEE,

OR

LITERARY WEEKLY INTELLIGNER,

FOR

WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 2. 1793

THOUGHTS ON WHAT IS CALLED *VARIETIES*, OR DIFFERENT BREEDS OF DOMESTIC ANIMALS, SUGGESTED BY READING DR PALLAS'S ACCOUNT OF RUSSIAN SHEEP.

J. A.
Continued from p. 124.

ON the other hand. Is there any thing inconsistent with that wisdom and beneficence so universally conspicuous in the system of this universe, or any thing that contradicts the general experience of mankind, and the facts that fall under his observation, in adopting the hypothesis, that a diversity of animals may have been originally formed with discriminative faculties and propensities fitted for the various purposes required of them in the general system, and separated from each other, though not by unsurmountable barriers, yet by such peculiar propensities as might serve to preserve the kinds sufficiently distinct to answer all the purposes re-

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quired of them? The different breeds of dogs, for example, though not prevented by any physical barrier from intermingling, are yet so distinctly separated from each other by certain peculiarities, as naturally to induce one class to associate together, in a state of freedom, in preference to others. The hound, for example, would naturally associate with other hounds who pursued the game, at a slow pace, by the sense of smelling, in preference to any other class of dogs. Should a grehound encroach upon this pack, he would so often destroy the game, and eat it before their approach, that they would find it necessary for their own preservation to drive him away, or tear him in pieces. Grehounds would as naturally associate with other grehounds for the same reason of mutual convenience; and so of other varieties. Thus would a distinction be formed, which in a state of nature would tend to preserve the several breeds uncontaminated. This purpose would be still strengthened by the acquaintance formed by the young of each tribe, with the mother and others of the same kind, with whom they were accustomed to associate from their infancy, and with whom we know they preserve habits of intimacy and kindness through life. These few particulars, without taking notice of many others, (as the size, which alone would effectually prevent many of the breeds from ever intermingling,) are sufficient to show, that in a state of nature, the different varieties of the same species of animals might be preserved distinct perhaps for ever. In short we do actually know of two instances where the breeds

of two ~~pure~~ *varieties* of animals have been preserved since the creation of the world till the present hour, distinct from all others of the same kind, and uncontaminated in a wild state, merely by the peculiar instincts with which they are naturally endowed. These are the *wolf* and the *fox*, which though ranked by Buffon, and most other naturalists, as distinct *species*, are now proved, by the most decisive experiments, conducted under the eye of the ingenious Mr John Hunter of London, to be only *varieties* of the dog kind, which may be brought to intercopulate with others of the same species, and by that means produce a mongrel breed, participating as usual of the qualities of both parents, and equally prolific as others of the same kind.*

In regard to sheep, the varieties of this useful class of animals seem to be considerable, and their natural propensities so discriminated as to be admirably calculated for adapting them to different situations on this globe, so as to make them a very universal inhabitant of it: and these are so diversified as to habits and instincts, as to preserve the principal breeds very distinct, if left in a state of nature. The argali, strong, active, nimble, delights to live among rocks and inaccessible places; while the large sluggish breed of sheep, such as those

* Vide Philosophical Transactions, Anno, 1792, and miscellaneous essays by Mr John Hunter, 4to 1793, London. The same able naturalist has obtained a prolific breed between the common cow and buffalo; which affords another proof of the fact specified in the text. This will be more particularly mentioned in a future paper.

that have been taken into keeping by our countryman, Bakewell, could never ascend these steeps, but are well calculated to consume the produce of the fertile plains ; there is therefore no chance that these two breeds would ever intermingle, if left entirely to themselves. The *last* of these two varieties has indeed been long domesticated by man, as being utterly incapable of withdrawing itself from his sway, though the *first* has been able to preserve its independence till the present hour in some of the mountainous and least inhabited districts on the globe.

These two are perhaps the most opposite extremes of the varieties of sheep ; others are separated by lesser distinctions. The small nimble light bodied sheep like those of Shetland, being capable of undergoing much travel, are fitted for open hilly pastures, where a wide range is necessary before they can pick up a scanty subsistence ; these are therefore to be found chiefly in barren regions, thinly inhabited by man, where of course they enjoy a freedom approaching towards the state of wildness ; while the weightier fat rumped sheep of Asia, require a richer pasture, and plants of more luxuriant growth. Thus the different breeds would naturally separate from each other ; and being once separated, that desire which all gregarious animals, at least, have to associate with those of their acquaintance in preference to all others, would keep them so distinct as never to be in danger of losing the breed, while left to themselves.

It is unnecessary here to pursue this disquisition through a more minute investigation of particulars. But it is of importance to take particular notice of a very ingenious remark of Dr Pallas, as it tends to show the immense power conferred upon man by the creator for the melioration of the objects put within his reach, and adapting them for the particular purposes he may have in view for his own emolument; if he chooses, by a patient steadiness of conduct, to properly avail himself of those faculties that heaven has conferred upon him; and accounts for some particular diversities of animals not before enumerated.

Dr Pallas in the foregoing essay has brought together many facts which tend to show, that although any one *variety* of domestic animals, if kept free from intermixing with any other variety of the same species, will in general, propagate the same kind with little material change, yet that if from unknown or accidental causes, an individual shall be produced possessing some unusual peculiarities, that individual has a tendency to produce others resembling itself in a certain degree, even in its individual peculiarities; so that if a male and female should at the same time be met with, which both possessed the same kind of individual peculiarity, these, if made to breed together, will produce a distinct breed, which will, by hereditary descent, render in some degree permanent, that peculiarity which was at first accidental; and this effect will be rendered the more certain, if care be taken at all times to separate from the breeding stock those individuals which chance

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to possess the distinguishable peculiarity in a less
eminent degree than the others.

Now, although every breed of animals preserves in general its distinguishing peculiarities with little variation, yet these accidental deviations when conjoined with the peculiarity of their becoming in some measure hereditary by a careful selection, put it in the power of an attentive observer, to make prodigious improvements upon the domestic animals that are under his immediate care, and thus give room to permanent changes that never could have been experienced if the animals had continued in a state of nature.

Let us suppose, for example, that the breed of sheep of which a man at first obtained possession, contained in general some hairs among the wool, and that he found these hairs were not fitted for the particular uses he meant to make of that wool. He would soon observe that the fleece of some transient individuals in the flock contained less of that hair than the others. These individuals he selects to breed from. The wool of all their descendants of course contains much less hair in it, than the general mass of the original sheep. Here then is one melioration in consequence of attention, that never could have taken place in a wild state, because the peculiarity of the individual sheep would have been soon blended with the general mass, and lost in consequence of a promiscuous intercopulation.

A purer wool being thus obtained; by the same kind of attention continued, though another transi-

ent individual might in time appear, perhaps with a more hairy fleece than the improved parent stock; it would of course be banished from the breed; and when another individual, with still purer wool might be produced, this one being again selected to breed from, occasions an additional refinement. In this way it might happen that in course of time, by a continued care, a sheep might at last be found, among the wool of which there were no hairs at all; and this also being selected would afford a breed with wool entirely free from hair, unless upon an accidental individual, which would of course be separated from the breeding stock whenever it appeared*.

* A singular instance of the powerful tendency that animals in a state of nature have to preserve the separate varieties distinct, occurs in regard to the Shetland breed of sheep, so justly celebrated for the unequalled softness of its pile, and brilliancy of its colour. In the Shetland isles, though the sheep are not entirely in a wild state, they are so nearly so, as scarcely to deserve the name of a domestic animal, and suffer no other effect from the care of the owner than those which tend to deteriorate the breed; yet in spite of these efforts to debase it, continued for ages, there are still remains of that breed tolerably pure in that place. The measures that have been taken to debase it are as under:

1. Foreign breeds, producing hard coarse wool, have been often introduced into these isles. But the nimble active native sheep, frequenting in general the more desolate wilds at the greatest distance from the dwellings of the natives, in some measure withdraw themselves from the others, like the Tartar Nomades from the Russian peasants, and thus get the breed only partially debased by accidental stragglers.

2. As the natives scarcely look at their sheep save once a year, and do not shear the wool, but gather it upon the heath as it falls from the animal in handfuls, they have had no opportunity of remark-

By a similar process, the *colour*, the *fineness*, the *length*, the *softness*, the *crispiness*, the *lankness*, or any other peculiarity of wool might be greatly im-

ing the great improvements that may be made by a selection of the best sort for breeders; and therefore have never attempted to make such a selection.

3. In consequence of their ignorance of this peculiarity they have bestowed no care in the choice of their rams, so that no other rule has been adopted in the choice of rams but a kind of necessity. At the time of castrating the ram lambs it often happens that one or both the testicles have not then descended into the scrotum, so that the gelding of such being more difficult and dangerous than the others, to save that trouble and avoid that danger, all these *ridgelings*, as they are called, are left to be rams, without regard to the quality of their wool or other properties.

4. But they do not stop here. Though the natives are ignorant of the powerful tendency with which animals are naturally endowed to perpetuate the peculiarities of the parents by breeding, they know well that if the same individual once carries a fleece of fine wool, it will continue to do so all its life; and as the finest of that wool is much prized,—when any person finds a lamb having a very fine fleece, he is anxious to preserve the property of it to himself as long as possible: but as the sheep are allowed to roam very much at large, they have observed that the *rams* are in much greater danger of straying from the parent flock at the rutting season than the castrated sheep; and as these stragglers are often not recovered to the owner, he thus loses the fine fleece which he values so much. To guard against this dreaded evil, he is at great pains to see that all the ram lambs that have fine fleeces be carefully gelded. Thus does he verify in good earnest the old fable of Esop, and actually kills the goose for the sake of its golden egg. There is not perhaps upon record such a striking instance to be found of the powerful tendency of nature to preserve a breed, in spite of the efforts of art to destroy it, as this very case affords. The conduct of these persons however appears to be so very extraordinary, that while I thus state it with impartiality, I am forced to appeal to thousands of people now living for the truth of it, lest it might be supposed to be a mere fabrication of my own.

proved, and considerable alterations be made in the shape, appearance, and other peculiarities of the sheep, without the smallest alteration of the parent breed, or intermixture with others. In this way lesser variations may be produced, which may constitute a kind of *artificial* varieties of sheep. And it is probable, that this circumstance being observed has given rise to Buffon's notion, that *all* the varieties we perceive in the same species must have been obtained in time from one individual. But it deserves here to be well remarked, that variations of this sort, never could have taken place *in a state of nature*, so as to produce any thing like a general change. In regard to this particular we may truly say, that "all is the gift of industry;" for without the fostering hand of man, the blessing which heaven intended for him would have been lost. The distinguished particular would have been suffered to die with the individual, as its peculiarities would immediately have been blended promiscuously in the general mass.*

* Should it ever happen, that the beaver shall come under the power of man, it is not impossible, but the fur of that animal might, by attention and selection, be greatly meliorated. In its present state there are many long and stiff hairs, interspersed through the fine soft fur of that animal, which must be separated from that fur, before it can be applied to any use. This is a very troublesome operation, and the best method that has hitherto been adopted for effecting this, is to allow the Indians to wear these furs as garments, until the stiff hairs, which loosen before the fine fur, gradually disappear; by this process the fine fur is much worn also.—But were men enabled to select such beavers for breeding apart, as chanced to have less of this hair in their fleece than usual, it would gradually become thinner, and by the same care continued, might in time perhaps entirely disappear. But the beaver seems to be too shy an animal to afford any probability

ON THE DELAYS INCIDENT TO THE COURT

OF SESSION.

W. Macnab
To the Lord President of the Court of Session.

LETTER IV.

MY LORD,

IT might be too violent a change to shorten the *inducia* or days of citation, and alter the mode of bringing an action into court by tabling, calling, outgiv-

that it ever can be domesticated, and therefore we are not to look for any improved varieties of this, more than of other wild animals.

The same mode might be taken to improve the wool of the vicuna, a small species of the camel tribe, which affords the fine wool called *laine de vigogne*, or vigonia wool, which also abounds with coarse hairs like that of the beaver; and as this animal can easily be domesticated, and is known to live in the cold climate of Afanquez in Spain, could its fleece be once purified from the hairs that now debase it, that creature might in time become a valuable addition to the stock of domestic animals in Europe.

This mode of improvement may be applied to *vegetables*, as well as to animals, with great benefit to the public, and advantage to individuals. Having observed that the different plants of the same kinds of kidney beans vary from each other exceedingly, in regard to their prolificacy, I was very desirous of saving some seeds this season from some of the most and of the least prolific plants in the same bed, to sow them apart, and observe the result; but unfortunately, they were gathered without my knowledge, so as to mar the experiment for a year. Having mentioned this circumstance, with regret, to a very attentive gardener, he assured me that the same circumstance had struck him long ago, and that he had tried the experiment, and said it never failed that the seeds produced from the most prolific plants always afforded by much the most abundant crop, though there was even among these a considerable diversity in particular plants; but by a

ing, return, and inrollment. As our habits and attention are formed to these, it will perhaps be better to preserve them unaltered. But if a condescendence be not lodged within a fortnight, I think the cause should go to be advised as it stands; and that the same thing may safely take place as to answers, replies, and duplies. The clerks and their assistants might be ordained to mark the date of lodging on each of these papers; and there should be an absolute prohibition against receiving one paper of them after the fourteenth day is run. If such a regulation were made, these papers would no more be received *after the days*, than a representation could after the interlocutor becomes final.

The debate should be pretty full when it comes the length of duplies, which ought, I think, to be the last paper allowed of. But here a difficulty occurs. The respondent often makes some production along with his duplies; and it would be playing the condescender under a disadvantage if he were not to see the

constant selection in this way, he thinks perhaps the produce might be prodigiously augmented.

I had occasion to take notice, Bee vol. vi. p. 96. that another attentive gentleman, had, by the same mode of selection, obtained a variety of pease much more early than the common; and no doubt by an equal degree of care, other valuable peculiarities might be increased.

Another gentleman of my acquaintance having about a dozen years ago thus selected some ears of wheat of a peculiarly fine quality, has obtained a variety, which by a continuance of the same care, now yields him a crop which he is confident, in equal circumstances, will be in general worth two guineas per acre more than if he had taken his seed at random. This opens up a wide field for the attentive and industrious improver!

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production before it goes to be advised. To remedy this, both parties might be ordained to bring forward their facts, and make their productions, along with their condescendence and answers; and all new productions after the answers are lodged, might be absolutely prohibited; and if any new document should afterwards come to the knowledge of either party, it might be produced along with a representation or an answer, as the case may be.

I would not have *the days* to stop even for the recovery of a paper out of the hands of a third party; nor indeed to admit of any interruption more than the representing days: for if they are once found capable of interruption, things will soon revert into their old channel of delay. And if a party be thus taken short by a strict adherence to rule, the benefit can be reserved to him of any action he may choose to bring afterwards, upon the unrecovered deed.

In the case of orders to produce a writing, it is obvious that the time for production cannot in every case be limited to a fortnight. The document may not always be at hand. It may be in the East or West Indies, or perhaps a-missing or lost. Such orders must therefore be left to the discretion of the judge, that he may allow a week or a year, to produce it, as most expedient. But after the time allowed by him is once expired, I would not have it in the power of the judge himself to give any renewal of the order; but only to reserve action to the party supposed to suffer from the want of the deed. When litigants are once aware of such precision, they will bestir themselves

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much more than they would, if any renewal could be hoped for.

It is no uncommon thing, to have the one party ordained to produce a writing that is favourable for the other. In such a case the party ordained, may no doubt elude the order till the time expires; but still I would not put it in the power of the judge to renew the order, but, let the cause go to be advised as it stands, so as the judge may give an interlocutor, according to the circumstances of the case, either *presuming* against the party *ordained*, for not producing, or reserving action to the other party, for exhibition and consequences. Perhaps in this instance the principle of necessity and precision is carried too far. If so, the proposition can no where be safer than under your Lordship's consideration. I shall afterwards have occasion to mention several things that are equally worthy of your notice, as equally requiring a remedy, and not more easily provided for.

I am &c. LENTULUS.

FRAGMENTS OF LORD BACON.

Art of life, in the cultivation of such habitudes, as terminate in an amiable, tranquil, and respectable old age.

L B.
For the Bee.

Continued from vol. xvi. p. 169.

* * * * In forty years, (reckoning from the attainment of man's estate,) a man may have a deep gust of the world, know what it is, what it can afford, and what it is to have been a man.

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Such a latitude of years holdeth a considerable corner in the map of general history, especially if we count that only which is fully authentick, and fitted by the multiplicity of annals, to let us truly see the character of our kinde in that of our forefathers.

Thus a man may have a short epitome of the whole course of time in the dayes of his own life, and clearly see that he hath but acted over again the drama of his predecessors, and what sort of thing living will be in all ages to come.

In every stage or period of a man's pilgrimage upon earth, he looketh intently and with eagerness upon some shining point at a distance, and is ballanced in his progression by some weight of glory, or phantasm of pleasure, that cometh upon his imagination, his memory, or his judgement, and guideth his energy, or his ambition, or his prudence. At the termination of these vistas, he figureth to himself, and setteth forth in romantick and gawdy fiction, places of rest and quiet delight, where he shall turmoil himself no more with the pursuit of the vain and transient objects of human ambition, but enjoy the calm delights of retirement from bustle and business, speculate upon the past, and prepare for the prize that he flatters himself with at the end of his career.

This is an admirable ordination of eternal providence, in the spurring of a man's journey, in the steep and asperous roads through which he hath to pass or to climb, in the eventful course from the cradle to the grave.

No sooner hath he arrived by the direction of a brilliant point, to that which he supposed to be a seat

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of rest, and of quietness, than another point, and one
(perhaps) still more brilliant and fascinating than the
former, is presented to his view. He again presses for-
ward, and wonders at himself that he should have
mistaken a bench upon the road for a magnificent
and comfortable inn.

Now as man is a lazy animal, in common with all
other creatures, this activity and predominancy of
his imagination giveth him the mastery of every
thing upon earth, and singularly distinguisheth him
from the brutes, which is beautifully described by

Longinus in his treatise concerning the sublime.
“ We are well assured (sayeth he) that nature hath
not intended man for a low spirited or ignoble being:
but bringing us into life, and into the midst of this
wide universe, as before an immense multitude assem-
bled at some heroick solemnity, that we might be
spectators of all her magnificence, and candidates high
in emulation for the prize of glory, she has implant-
ed in our souls an unextinguishable love of every
thing that appeareth divine beyond our comprehen-
sion.”†

Certainly therefore it is of high account in this
our art of life, to change the object, but not to sub-
due the principle of this ambition, which for wise
purposes hath been implanted in our nature. But as
the vigour of our bodies and the energy of our ima-
gination and memory decline, to cultivate the de-
lights that arise from reflection and judgement, and
to be chearfully entertained with the view of others.

† Longinus de Sublim. §. xxiv.

Longinus
Killer
ap 273

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younger than ourselves deceiving themselves innocently, agreeably, and perhaps usefully, as we ourselves had done heretofore.

It is to the defect of this desireable quality and habitude, that most of the troubles of declining years, may be imputed; and certainly there can be no better way of eschewing them, than by calling forth our improved powers of reflection and judgement, to the cultivation and pursuit of such things as do not shock or interfere with those that occupy the ambition of our more active competitors, *to cultivate acquaintance with worthy young men, especially those whose fathers we have esteemed, and to cherish them in all honourable advances in the paths we have been forced by infirmity of nature to relinquish.*

To delineate the most proper occupations for declining years, would be vain and foolish, without due consideration being had to the employments of youth, and of manhood, in the particular case to which we would direct our admonitions; and therefore these must vary according to the infinite variety of fortune, genius, former occupation, climate, government, and custom. But certainly there can be nothing better for attaining such habitudes as terminate in an amiable, tranquil, and respectable old age, than the disentangling of ourselves, as we have already said, from such objects of ambition as are incompatible with our growing weakness of body, and attaching ourselves to such as may fully exercise the powers of our memory and judgement, and produce that gentle agitation of body and of mind, in exertation and study, that is most conducive unto general sanity and comfort.

On this occasion I cannot do better than cite a passage which Cicero hath put into the mouth of the elder Cato, that deserveth as much attention for its solidity and good sense, as it doth praise for the beauty and accuracy of stile in which it is delivered.

“ If, sayeth he, petulance or lust be vices more frequent among young men than old, yet all young men are not infected with them, but such only as want proper talents ; so it is with that sort of distemper which you call dotage,; which is indeed the disease of old men, but to which all old men are not subjected. Appius was for some years quite blind, and yet he managed a family of four sons grown up, and five daughters, with abundance of relations and clients, who depended upon him. He kept his mind always in order, and though his vigour decayed, yet his senses never failed him. He preserved to the last moment his character and his authority : every body looked up to him as became their station : his slaves feared, his children revered, and all who were about him loved him. In a word he kept up the old discipline, and did honour to the Roman name, by preserving the manners of his family untainted. Thus it is, that old age may maintain a graceful superiority, if it be prudently jealous of its prerogative: if on all occasions it maintains its rights : if it never sneaks and gives way, but keeps up a manly spirit to the last : for as I approve some qualities of age in a young man, so a youthful spirit is very commendable in men of years, for which they preserve this,

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though the body may feel the effects of age, yet the mind stands out of its reach.

“ At this very instant, I am employed in writing the seventh book of my antiquities, and am actually making large collections from such old records as may serve my purpose. I likewise review, and sometimes touch afresh the orations I have formerly made in the capital causes wherein I have been concerned. I still kept up my stock of knowledge in the augurial pontifical, and civil law, and have time enough to read a great deal of Greek besides.

“ I constantly use the Pythagorean method for the exercise of my memory, and every evening run over in my mind whatever I have said, heard, or done, that day. These are the exercises of the understanding; *and in these as in a chariot, the soul takes the air.* While I am capable of these, I do not give myself much concern about the decay of my body; I am always at the command of my friends when I am able; I attend the service of the senate frequently, and distinguish in debates, wherein a man compasseth more by strength of judgement, than he can do elsewhere by strength of arms. But should it ever prove my misfortune to be confined to my bed, and be thereby rendered incapable of going through these employments, yet the very thoughts of what I would do if I were able, would console me. But thanks to Heaven, I have no reason to apprehend any such thing; I have been a better husband of my time than so, *for let a man be but*

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Constantly exercised in labours like these, and he will not soon find the breaches of age. Years will steal upon him insensibly; he will grow old by degrees and without feeling it; nay, when he comes to break at last the house will crumble gently, and fall down so slowly as not to give him any great uneasiness."

Thus has the master of Roman eloquence delightfully exemplified in Cato, the advantage that arises from continuing those exercises of the memory and judgement, in which manhood had formerly been occupied, without the dangerous fervor of imagination, or too much activity either of body or of mind; and although every man in age must be regulated in his amusement, by the bent of his genius, and the fund of his former experience, yet in the innocent, healthful, and useful occupations of agriculture and gardening, it would seem that every man, let his condition have been whatsoever, will find great contentment and advantage; and it is in the uniform variety united to simplicity that much of this pleasure consists, as the cultivated mind will evidently perceive in the affectionate reception which he giveth to the unadorned and simple description of the Corycian swain, the old man of virgils iv. Georgic, with which I shall conclude my present lucubration.*

" Now where with stately towers Tarentum stands,
And deep Galesus soaks the yellow sands,
I chanc'd an old Corycian swain to know,
Lord of few acres, and these barren too;
Unfit for sheep or vines, and more unfit to sow :

* The latin quotation is omitted on account of our general readers, and the translation by Dryden, is substituted in its place. *Edit,*

Yet lab'ring well his little spot of ground,
 Some scatt'ring pot herbs here and there he found :
 Which, cultivated with his daily care,
 And bruis'd with vervain, were his frugal fare.
 Sometimes white lilies did their leaves afford,
 With wholesome poppie flowers to mend his homely board :
 For late returning home he sup'd at ease,
 And wisely deem'd the wealth of monarchs less, }
 Than little of his own, *because his own did please.* }
 To quit his care, he gather'd first of all,
 In spring the roses, apples in the fall :
 And when cold winter split the rocks in twain,
 And ice the running rivers did restrain,
 He stript the bears foot of its leafy growth,
 And, calling western winds, accus'd the spring of sloth.
 He therefore first among the swains was found,
 To reap the product of his labour'd ground, }
 And squeeze the combs with golden liquor crown'd. }
 His limes were first in flower, his lofty pines,
 With friendly shade, secur'd his tender vines.
 For ev'ry bloom his trees in spring afford,
 An autumn apple was by tale restor'd ;
 He knew to rank his elms in even rows, }
 For fruit the grafted pear tree to dispose : }
 And tame to plumbs the sourness of the sloes. }
 With spreading planes he made a cool retreat,
 To shade good fellows from the summer's heat.

INTELLIGENCE FROM INDIA. •

In the xi. volume of the Bee, p.89. was given an account of some very singular facts respecting the generation of fishes in India, which appeared so extraordinary as to require farther elucidation before they could be admitted as certain. The Editor indeed has received letters since that time from persons who said they had been in India, flatly contradicting the whole account. The following communication from Madras, received by the King George East Indiaman, will afford some satisfaction to our readers on this very curious subject.

The other subjects mentioned in this communication are equally curious and interesting.

FARTHER ELUCIDATIONS RESPECTING THE SUDDEN
GENERATION OF FISHES IN INDIA, FROM A COR-
RESPONDENT AT MADRAS.

For the Bee.

Lea Berry

WE were not surprised at reading your paper on the generation of fishes,—we every day hear similar accounts ; but when we endeavour to trace them to their source, vain is the attempt. Like many other stories they have passed current so long as to be believed ; and the great quantities of small fish that are found during the monsoon so universally over the face of the country, and on such elevated spots as are never overflowed by rivers or reservoirs of water, seemingly give probability to them ; and the appearance of fish of considerable magnitude, two or three inches long, that are caught in streams from high grounds, induce many to believe that they must have fallen from the heavens ; for no fish could have existed there before.

That fish are found wherever there is standing or running water, and frequently on very high ground, is most true ; but that fish are found on the tops of houses, I must have ocular demonstration to believe. The instance you mention as occurring at St. Thomas's Mount, was not I believe on the top of a house, but on the high ground there, which equally astonished those that saw it. Mankind are fond of the marvellous, and always improve such stories.

I have not paid much attention to this subject, but believe there is nothing wonderful in what we gene-

rally see. During the monsoon, the torrents of rain are so heavy, that there is a stream of running water over the whole face of the country; the grafs, that then grows luxuriantly, keeps up an inch or more of running water on the highest grounds. From the eagerness with which I have seen fish endeavour to ascend running streams, and from having frequently seen them make their way through wet grafs, I am convinced that all the fish of any magnitude, that appear at the commencement of the rains, come from the sea by the rivers, that are soon filled; for none I believe are correct enough as to time, to say that there was not water running into the sea, by which they might ascend; and that it is only after having got to the highest grounds that the fish are caught in nets placed at the bottom of the descending streams.

The natives believe that these immense quantities of fish are produced from the eggs of fish deposited in the mud; and they assert that they mud of any tank, if put in water, will produce fish. Some mud that has been brought me gives great probability to this opinion; for it is full of eggs. I have forwarded a little to your correspondent in London. They say that these eggs are not destroyed although exposed to the burning rays of the sun for months.* I am trying some just now taken from a tank that has been dry

* This is a very curious fact, and deserves to be ascertained with care. The mud is not yet come to hand, but when it does experiments shall be tried with it. In the mean while we are to hope that our correspondents in India will prosecute this subject.

above six weeks. If it succeeds I have no doubt that what I have sent will produce fish ; for I hope you will receive it before the period of our monsoon.

It is not necessary however to suppose that the eggs are exposed to much heat, for as the mud dries, it cracks, and they may be preserved in the fissures: It is possible also, that the fish may bury themselves in the soft mud, when they deposit their eggs; for our fresh water fish can live in little water, and even in mud.

The fish that are generally caught in the paddy (rice) fields, are not confined to one species. I have had a list of above twenty given me, that are known to those I spoke to; most of which are fresh water fish.†

But this mode of producing fish will not account for their sudden appearance of considerable size at the very commencement of the rains ; I must therefore still believe they come from the sea. Fish are frequently carried to tanks and put in wells ; as the natives know they are useful in purifying water, by devouring the filth.

a singular fish caught on trees.

I was in hopes of sending you along with this, a description of a fish, a species of pike, that will lessen your astonishment at the idea of finding fish in the highest situations, when this is found on the tops of trees. This species of pike has been discovered by a lieutenant Dalderff a very ingenious Dane, and learned in all the branches of natural history. This fish, with the assistance of two hooks on its breast fins, makes a dart through the stream of water falling from the leaves and running down the trunk of the *palmira*,

† This list will prove very acceptable. *Edi.*

borasus flabelliformis; and there maintaining itself by its hooks, it makes similar darts against the descending stream, in search of insects, till it reaches the top.

This is all the information I can give you at present on the subject of fish, I will endeavour soon to ascertain what I have proposed.

A curious species of legerdemain respecting serpents.

To show you how easily a person may be deceived, I will give you an anecdote of myself. Soon after my arrival here, when I was amused by the slight of hand tricks, tumbling, rope dancing &c. in which a particular cast of natives are very expert; these people, who carry about snakes, and pretend to have authority over them, came to me and told me that they would catch, by the power of music, as many snakes as I chose. I was a good deal surprised at what they said, and resolved to put it to the test. One of them went a little way from the house, playing on a pipe and uttering incantations, saying that if the snake would come to him he would treat it well, give it butter milk, and send it to the mountains where it would not be molested; he then pretended to look very attentively at a hole, still continuing to play, and louder; when by and by he saw a snake, and cautiously introducing his hand, brought out a large cobra de capella, *coliber naga*. In this way he caught two or three close by the house, I then carried him to different parts of the garden; and he caught so many that I at last thought I had proof positive. Soon after I had brought them to the house, Dr Anderson came home: and on hearing what I believed, in consequence, he desired me to

to look at their mouths, when lo all their poisonous fangs had been pulled out, and the little poison that was in their mouths was of a whitish colour and harmless, from the milk diet the snakes had been fed on, instead of that high red colour it is of when in their native state. The fellow then confessed, when we threatened to kill all his snakes as dangerous, that he had deposited most of them in different parts where he thought it was likely I should go. Some wild ones however he caught that were not of a poisonous nature ; but that is easily done, for if a snake is seen, by siezing it by the tail with one hand, and running the other close to the head, they can secure the most dangerous with safety. Now the opinion of fish being charmed by music is very ancient, and as much believed as that of fish falling from the heavens.

A. B.

READING MEMORANDUMS.

LET us pay an absolute submission to the will of God, in all the dispensations of his providence, and to all the rules of natural and revealed religion, without endeavouring vainly to discover the reasons of his determinations, or prying into final causes, most of which, to our limited capacity, are inscrutable. It is our business to live virtuously and happily in the world, and not to attempt the discovery of how or when it was formed into its present situation. This is a tree of forbidden knowledge, the search after which has discovered the nakedness of all our philosophers.

LITERARY OLLA. No. 1.

For the Bee
Gray the Poet, — A dialogue concerning Youth.

*To D***d M*****u E*****e.*

— 'The insect youth are on the wing,
 Eager to taste the honied spring,
 And float amid the liquid noon:
 Some lightly o'er the current skim,
 Some shew their gaily gilded trim,
 Quick glancing to the sun.

'To contemplation's sober eye,
 Such is the race of man:
 And they that creep and they that fly,
 Shall end where they began.
 Alike the busy and the gay,
 But flatter thro' life's little day,
 In fortune's varying colours drest:
 Brush'd by the hand of rough mischance;
 Or chill'd by age their airy dance,
 They leave, in dust to rest.'

These, (nephew!) with other charming lines of the excellent GRAY, were sent inclosed in a letter to his accomplished and beloved young friend WEST, the son of the lord chancellor of Ireland. But "his sun was set," his spring was gone, before the letter arrived at his residence in Hertfordshire; and he died I believe on the first of June, the same day that brought me into the world; so that if I believed in the metempsychosis, I might be foolish enough to imagine that I am the very person to whom this pretty little copy of verses was addressed.

When I was sitting in my garden under the shade of a weeping beech of singular beauty, which spreads its foliage over an area of near four hundred feet in circumference, admitting the light agreeably without the scorching or glaring rays of the sun, I had in my hand the

and the letters of the elegant author of the immortal elegy in a country church yard. Ah! said I, happy Walpole, happy West, to have had such a man for your fellow traveller, friend, and preceptor; but I also had a Gray for mine. Then I thought of the dear and amiable young man whom duty had pointed out to my attention, and I conceived the design of writing a treatise concerning the nurture and legitimate happiness of youth: and I resolved to send it to you, on account of your age, and destination, your love and respect for me, and on account of your excellent father.

I have cast it in the mould of a dialogue, in what I wish to make a chaste imitation of the ancients; and I have made Gray the chief speaker, and Walpole and West (the admirers of Gray,) the prolocutors in ~~dialogue~~ with the poet.

Figure them then to yourself as walking together in the garden of Walpole, the young men ardent in argument, and the sentimental poet hovering over their debate, moderating it by his philosophy, and firing it with the sacred flame of his towering genius.

West. How delightful is this vernal day and sweet retirement on the banks of the imperial Thames;

"Tho' deep yet clear, tho' gentle yet not dull;
Strong without rage, without o'erflowing full."

I imagine Gray, by tuning his pipe to it so often, has been assimilated to it, as we generally are to what we admire.

Walpole. Sentimental young rogue: I see what kind of sport you are thinking of on the margin of this river. You are *fish*ing for a compliment in immortal verse from Gray, when he shall have finished his apprenticeship to the muse on the Thames, and set up in business for himself.

West. By no means, Horace, and to give you the reply valiant, I super-add in the words of the same poet of the Thames, that I was thinking of our placid and agreeable situation here, while *Stanhope** is thundering in the senate, and Spain trembling through all her borders.

Oh happiness of sweet retir'd content !
To be at once secure and innocent.

Gray. Bravo ! young courtiers : but as the morning is yet early, what would ye think of resuming the conversation of yesterday, on the proper training and employment of youth ; and how they lead to honourable manhood, and venerable old age ?

Walpole and *West.* With all our hearts ; we only wished to play a little prelude to your pleasing solo.

Gray. In spite of your merriment gentlemen I will be serious.

We had determined yesterday, as you may remember, by an unanimous opinion, *that the capital end of a good education was to form a reasonable, useful, and benevolent man* ; and that the most proper and efficacious method of leading young people to what is reasonable, useful, and benevolent, was to inspire them with confidence and awe towards the great intelligent author of nature.

Walpole. We did so ; but you must also recollect that I entertained some doubt concerning the means to avoid chatechistical rote, metaphysics, or superstition, in beginning too early with the grand foundation of religion.

West. My fears do not lye upon that side, but rather upon the other.

Gray. I would have children gradually and familiarly,

* Stanhope earl of Chesterfield (April 1739) agitating the house of lords.

and endearingly induced to draw consequences from analogy, favourable to the fear of God, and the admiration of his wisdom and goodness.

A child knows that a house, a statue, a picture, or a piece of furniture, did not make itself: he knows it from observation; and let us show him what we will, if he remarks uniformity and regularity in it, he will not fail to ask who made that?

This disposition is natural to all children, and this disposition, judiciously cherished, and improved will naturally open their minds to as rational and extensive a knowledge of God as it is possible for weak mortals to obtain.

Notwithstanding the pride and nonsense of false philosophy, and scholastic theology, I maintain that in this respect young people are more upon a par with their elders than we are willing to allow.

It appears also to me, that the only way by which we can exclude that superstition or personification of unknown causes, to which mankind, from the powers of reflection co-operating with fear, are so subject, is by substituting the first principle of rational religion in its stead.

If we say, that such a notion is too sublime for a child, I say it is too sublime for him to whom Sir Isaac Newton were as a little child. But the early impression being properly made, it will always carry along with it the associate idea of divine intelligence, and will lay a foundation for the unfolding understanding to receive proper instruction, and for the inquisitive youth, to direct his attention more to the ultimate properties of nature by observation, and experiment than by theorising on secondary causes; and *thus he will be early taught to set his foot upon the first step of the ladder of the illustrious Lord Bacon.*

To be continued.

AN ANECDOTE.

A few years ago, a woman who rented a snug house in Dublin, alarmed the neighbourhood with a strange story of a ghost, dressed as a female in black robes, that opened the curtains of her bed, surrounded by an illumination like lightening, and with a countenance labouring under some heavy burden, beckoned the woman to follow her. The person haunted, called in two relations to sleep with her next night ; but they were also equally frightened with groans and an uncommon noise, and left the house next day.

The occupier of the house still persisted that she was not only haunted, but threatened by the ghost ; and to this she made the most solemn oaths, as well as imprecations, and accordingly took lodgings in a neighbouring street.

The story having gone abroad, hundreds were daily drawn by curiosity into the street where the haunted house was : and it becoming the subject of conversation every where, Mr Nolan, so well known for his poetical and political abilities, took up a sporting bet, that he would suffer himself to be locked up in the house one whole night, without the company of any human being. About nine o'clock he went, and was shut up ; but for the sake of defence against any improper practices, he took with him a dog and a case of loaded pistols, and was not released till six o'clock next morning, when he was found by his companions——fast asleep.

The following elegant stanzas will best show the situation of his mind during the time of his vigils. Suffice it to say, he saw no ghost, though he heard a great deal of noise ; and loudly threatened to shoot the first one who

Should approach him, whether of this world or of the other.
This discreet ghost desisted, and the people got rid of
their fears in that neighbourhood.

STANZAS,

WRITTEN IN A HAUNTED ROOM.

If from the cearments of the silent dead,
Our long departed friends could rise anew;
Why feel a horror, or conceive a dread,
To see again those friends whom once we knew?

Father of All! thou gav'st not to our ken,
To view beyond the ashes of our grave;
'Tis not the idle tales of busy men
That can the mind appal.—The truly brave,
Seated on reason's adamant throne,
Can place the soul, and fears no ills unknown.

O! if the flinty prison of the grave
Could loose its doors, and let the spirit flee,
Why not return the *wise*, the *just*, the *brave*,
And set once more the pride of ages free?
Why not restore a *Socrates* again?
Or give thee, *Newton*, as the first of men?

In this lone room where now I patient wait,
To try if souls departed can appear,
O could a *Burgh* escape his prison gate,
Or could I think *Latouche's* form was near.
Why fear to view the shades which long must be
Sacred to freedom and to charity?

A little onward in the path of life,
And all must stretch in death their mortal frame;
A few short struggles end the weary strife,
And blot the frail memorial of our name.
Torn from the promontory's lofty brow,
In time the rooted oak itself lies low.

THE INDIAN COTTAGE,

A TALE.

Continued from page 152, and concluded.

AFTER this conversation, the paria took leave of his guest, and left him to his repose, retiring with his wife and his child's cradle into a little adjoining apartment.

Next morning the doctor was early awaked by the singing of birds, having their nests in the branches of the Indian fig, and by the voice of the paria and his spouse repeating together their morning prayer. He arose, and was much vexed when upon the paria and his wife opening their door to wish him good morning, he saw that they had no other beds in the hut, except the conjugal couch; and that they had sat up all night to yield it to him. After they had saluted him, they made haste to get ready his breakfast; mean time he took a turn in the garden. He found it, as well as the hut, encircled with arches of the Indian fig, interlaced in such a manner that they formed a hedge impervious even to the eye. He perceived only above their foliage the surface of the red rocks, which formed the vale, all around him. From these descended a little spring, which watered this little garden, planted without any regular plan. One saw there intermixed mangoustans, oranges, cocoa trees, and other vegetables, all loaded with fruits or flowers: even their trunks were covered with them. The betel twined around the arched palm, the pepper around the mangoustan. The air was perfumed with their fragrant sweets. Tho' most of the trees were still in the shade, the first rays of the morning already shone upon their tops. One saw there colibris sparkling as rubies and topazes, while the Bengal birds and those of the *Sema Soule*, and five hundred other voices, concealed under the dewy leaves on their nests, formed a delightful concert.

The doctor was walking under these charming shades undisturbed by thoughts suggested either by learning or ambition, when the paria came to ask him in to breakfast. 'Your garden is a paradise, said the doctor; I find no fault with it except its small extent. Were I in your place, I would add a bowling green and extend it farther into the forest.' 'Sir, replied the paria, the less ground one occupies, he easier he is concealed; a leaf is enough for a nest to the fly bird.' Saying these words they entered the cottage, where they found in a

corner, the paria's wife suckling her child. She had served up the breakfast. After a silent repast, the doctor was about to take his leave: the Indian says to him "My guest, the plains are as yet overflowed with yesterdays rain; the roads are impassible. Spend this day with us." "I cannot," answered the doctor, my attendants are too numerous." "I see," replied the paria, you are in haste to leave the country of the brahmins; to return to that of the Christians, whose religion makes all men live as brethren." The doctor rose with a sigh. Then the paria made a sign to his wife, who with downcast eyes, and without uttering a word, presented to the doctor a basket of flowers and fruits. The paria in her name says to the Englishman, "Sir, excuse our poverty, we have neither ambergris, nor wood of aloes to perfume our guest, according to the custom of India. We have only flowers and fruits; but I hope you will not condemn this little basket filled by the hands of my wife. There are neither poppies nor marygolds; but jessamins, mougri, bergamots, by their duration, symbols of our love, the recollection of which we will cherish when we shall see you no more." The doctor took the basket, and said to the paria, "I cannot be too grateful for your hospitality, and I cannot express in a suitable manner the esteem I have for you: accept this gold watch; it was made by the most famous watch maker in London: it needs to be wound up only once a year." The paria replied, "We have not the least occasion for a watch. We have one that goes continually, and is never out of order; it is the sun." "My watch strikes the hours," added the doctor. "The birds chaunt them," replied the paria. "At least," replied the doctor, accept these coral beads to make red necklaces for your wife and child." "My wife and my child shall never want red necklaces," replied the paria, so long as my garden shall produce Angosa peas." "Take then these pistols to defend yourself from robbers in this your solitary retreat." "Poverty," says the paria, is a rampart which keeps robbers at a distance; the silver ornaments with which your arms are decorated would serve to attract robbers. In the name of God who protects us, and from whom we expect our reward, do not rob us of the price of our hospitality." "Meanwhile," replied the Englishman, I would wish that you would retain some memorial of me." "Well," replied the paria, since you wish it, I will venture to propose an exchange; give me your pipe, and take you mine; when I shall smoke with your's, I shall remember that an European pandect has not disdained to accept the hospitality of a poor paria." Instantly the doctor gave him his English leather pipe, whose head was of yellow amber, and

received in return that of the paria, of which the tube was of bamboo, and the head of baked clay.

Then he called upon his servants who were all benumbed with the cold of the night, and after having embraced the paria, he mounted his palanquin. The paria's wife, bathed in tears, stood alone at the door of the hut holding her child in her arms; but, her husband accompanied him to the skirts of the forest, loading him with benedictions. "May God be your reward, said he, for your goodness towards the unfortunate. May he accept my life as a sacrifice for yours. May he conduct you safe to England, that land of learned men, and of friends, who seek the truth all over the world to promote the happiness of mankind." The doctor answered, 'I have travelled over half the globe, and have seen every where error and strife; I have found truth and happiness in your cottage alone.' Saying these words they parted in tears. The doctor was already pretty far advanced on the plain, and he still saw the good paria at the foot of a tree, making signs with his hands to bid him adieu.

The doctor on his return to Calcutta embarked for Chandernagore, from whence he set sail for England.

On his arrival at London he sent the ninety bales of manuscripts to the president of the royal society, who deposited them in the British museum, where the learned are employed to this day in making of them translations, indexes, eulogiums, criticisms, and pamphlets.

As for the doctor, he kept for himself the three answers of the paria respecting truth; he smoked, often with his pipe; and when any one asked him what he had learned most useful in his travels, he answered, 'It is necessary to seek truth with a single heart free from prejudice: that we can find it only in nature; and that we ought to communicate it to the virtuous alone.' To which he added, 'a good wife alone makes a man happy.'

EAST INDIA SHIPPING FOR THE YEAR 1794.

The following ships taken up by the honourable East India Company for the ensuing season were stationed as under, by a court of directors held at the India house, on wednesday the 2 inst.

COAST AND BAY.

	Tons.	Captains.	To be a-float.	To sail.
Thetis	804	J. Nutt.	19 Oct.	24 Nov.
Lord Camden	775	N. Dance.	Do.	Do.
Phoenix	800	A. Gray.	Do.	Do.
Dutton	761	P. Simpson.	Do.	Do.
Melville castle	806	J. Haldane.	Do.	Do.
Manfrup	812	J. Lloyd.	Do.	Do.
General Goddard	799	W. T. Money.	3 Nov.	8 Dec.
Queen	801	M. Craig.	Do.	Do.
Rockingham	796	Hon. H. Lindsey.	Do.	Do.
Airley castle	813	C. Stewart.	Do.	Do.
Rose	801	J. H. Dempster.	Do.	Do.
Asia	816	J. Davy Foulkes.	Do.	Do.
Lord Hawkesbury,	803	J. Barclay	Do.	Do.
Essex	793	J. Strover.	Do.	Do.

BOMBAY AND CHINA.

Bridgewater	799	W. Parker.
Albion	961	W. Wills.
True Briton	1198	H. Farrer.

MADRAS AND CHINA.

Dublin	786	W. Smith.	19 Oct.	24 Nov.
Carnatic	1169	J. Corner.	Do.	Do.
Lord Macartney	796	J. Hay.		
Boddam	1021	J. Jones.		

ST HELENA AND CHINA.

D. of Buccleugh	1182	Thomas Wall.
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BENGAL AND BENCOOLEN

Europa	772	A. J. Applegarth.
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ST HELENA AND BENCOOLEN

Earl of Wycombe	655	John William Wood.
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BOMBAY.

Duke of Montrose	762	Joseph Dorin.
Sir Edward Hughes	957	Robert Anderson.
Raymond	793	Henry Smedley.

DITTO, CONDITIONALLY.

Woodford	1180	Charles Stewart
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CHINA.

	<i>Tons.</i>	<i>Captains.</i>
Sullivan	876	Robert Pouncy.
Ponforn	804	James Thomas.
Nottingham	1152	John Barfoot.
Middlesex	852	John Rogers.
Alfred	1198	James Farquharson.
Canton	1198	Thomas Brettell.
Taunton castle	1198	William Studd.
Ocean	1198	Andrew Patton.
Ganges	784	Joseph Garnault.
Walpole	774	Henry Churchill.
King George	776	Richard Colnett.
BENGAL.		
Contractor,	777	John Bartlet.
Valentine	790	Iver M'Millan.
Bushbridge	771	
General Elliot	800	Robert Drummond.

INDEX INDICATARIOUS.

Continued from p. 80.

A *VERY young* author, it is presumed, sends an epitaph upon a mouse, a subject unfortunately chosen, after the beautiful little poem by Burns on that subject. It would perhaps be cruel to refuse it a place altogether: to compound the matter, the two first, and the two last lines, which are not the worst in this composition, are subjoined.

"O mouse! thou didst a better fate deserve,
A hero's glorious death, a hero's praise.

Forsaken, breathless now thy body lies,
A prey to death, to worms a sacrifice."

Y. G. Y. G. obligingly sends several scraps, of which the following are excerpts.

To make a cheap red ink, he desires that the red flowers of the corn poppy may be gathered, boiled in water, and a little gumarabic added to the composition.

He answers a query in a former number of the Bee, inquiring a reason why Highland persons who learn to speak the low country language, always speak it with the English accent, though they learn it in Scotland, by saying first, they may learn it from books written in English, and second, from the English troops who are billeted in private houses, in places where there are no castles or barracks. Neither

of these will be admitted as valid reasons. The greatest part of the persons who thus learn the *British* language, as he properly enough in this case calls it, never learn to read it at all; and few are the English soldiers billeted in that way in comparison of the Scotch, who every where surround them. The following verses, written in the true ballad stile, (though somewhat limping at times,) is the best part of this collection.

Verses written on an orange

When Heaven and earth were all at peace,
 (By ancient bards 'tis told,
 By bards the sons of warlike Greece,
 Who tun'd the lyre of old:)

Fell discord with a wrathful look,
 Beheld the total quiet;
 And streight a dire resolve she took,
 To breed above a riot.

Amidst the goddesses 'tis said,
 A quarrel to foment,
 The golden fruit inscrib'd she laid,
 "Unto the fairest sent."

Each claim'd the gift; fell strife arose
 Amongst the heavenly fair;
 Now first the goddesses were foes;
 Now wrathful frowns they wear.

But here no quarrel can arise,
 And discord I defy;
 Since goddesses nor woman's eyes,
 Can with my Delia's vie.

Then, fair one, condescend *sans cholar*,
 Accept the tribute of the muse;
Golden, alas! alone in colour.
 But *love*, not *discord* to infuse.

'Tis sweeter far than gold, I trust,
 Hence Delia learn how better
 (Compared with trifles,) is the alluring dust,
 And know, "all are not gold that glitter."

A correspondent from the Isle of Skye, who signs himself *X. W.* desires that the following lines copied from a monument in the church of Slate in that island, may be preserved in the Bee. They are said to have been written by the late lord Littleton.

TO THE MEMORY OF SIR JAMES M'DONALD BART,

Who in the flower of youth
 Had attained to so eminent a degree of knowledge
 In the mathematicks, philosophy, languages;
 And in every branch of useful and polite learning,
 As few have ever acquired in a long life
 Wholly devoted to study;
 Yet to this erudition, he joined
 What can rarely be found with it,
 Great talents for business;
 Great propriety of behaviour;
 Great politeness of manners.
 His eloquence was sweet, correct, and flowing,
 His memory vast and exact,
 His judgement strong and acute.
 All which endowments, united
 With the most amiable temper,
 And every private virtue,
 Procured him, not only in his own country,
 But also from foreign nations,
 The highest marks of esteem.
 In the year of our Lord, 1766, the 25th of his life,
 After a long and extreme illness,
 Which he supported with admirable patience and fortitude,
 He died at Rome.
 There, notwithstanding the difference of religion,
 Such extraordinary honours were paid to his memory,
 As had never graced that of any other British subject
 In any foreign land,
 Since the death of Sir Philip Sidney.
 The same he has left behind him
 Is the best consolation to his afflicted family,
 And to his countrymen in this isle;
 For whose benefit he had planned many useful improvements,
 Which his fruitful genius suggested,
 And his active spirit promoted,
 Under the sober direction of a clear and enlightened understanding.
 Reader bewail our loss,
 And that of all Britain!

In testimony of her love,
 And as the best return she can make
 To her dear departed son,
 For the constant tenderness and affection
 Which, even to his last moments,
 He showed for her,
 His much afflicted mother,
 The Lady Margaret M'Donald,
 Daughter to the earl of Eglinton, erected this monument,
 1768.

A correspondent who stiles himself *one of the people*, thus begins a very long paper dated 1st October 1792.

"One would have thought that the late *horrible* transactions in a neighbouring nation, would have cooled in some degree the rage in this country; or at least that the *democratic*, or as they affect to call themselves the *patriotic* party, would have felt the blush of contrition for the dire effects of their levelling principles." But this he alleges has not been the case.—"What efforts do they still make, continues he, to delude the people? Is it not enough that they have degraded the first nation in Europe into a state of barbarism, *disgraceful to human nature*, but must they also labour to plunge this country likewise into the same gulph of misery?" This writer proceeds with much zeal nearly in the same strain to the end of his paper; of which it is hoped the foregoing extract is a sufficient specimen.

Poverty sends a very elaborate paper to the Bee on the subject of smuggling. He justly reprobates these illicit practices as being destructive to the trade, and industrious exertions of honest men, and calls upon every friend to their country to lend their aid in checking it. He observes that the officers of excise and customs execute the law so partially as to take care not to discourage smuggling too much, as that would plainly curtail their emoluments. He also suggests that landed men too often encourage smugglers because of the advanced rent these freebooters sometimes are able to give for land. But this every sensible landlord knows is so precarious that it is only a small proportion of these, we hope, who, from this motive, tend to cherish smugglers. After a great many hints tending to check this evil, he concludes by proposing that respectable persons throughout the whole country should form themselves into societies for the purpose of giving informations concerning it, and checking the practice. This we fear can never be expected. Indeed there is only one radical

cure for smuggling, and that is to moderate the duties, so as to make the hope of gain not to be such as to counterbalance the loss likely to be incurred. This, and nothing else will ever put a stop to it.

TO CORRESPONDENTS.

THE favour of *Emendator* is received. After returning thanks to this correspondent for the obliging manner in which he writes, the editor assures him that his hints shall have all due attention bestowed upon them; though he does not say that all the emendations he proposes will be adopted. Where the *public* is concerned which consists of persons of tastes infinitely varied, it is impossible that the wishes of any one can be entirely gratified; because attention must be paid to the wishes of others.

Philomantes wishes, for example, that mathematical questions should make a considerable part of the work, in which he is supported by the intelligent

Pappus, whose letter is hereby acknowledged, and which will be laid before the public when room can be spared for it.

Euphranor complains that too great a proportion of the work is appropriated to serious subjects, especially those respecting agriculture; so that too little room is left for tales and entertaining anecdotes; while loudly calls for more on the subject of agriculture: "You should teach us," says he, "how to sow, how to reap; how to manure our ground, so as to derive the greatest profit from it and leave all light summer reading to other trifling performances;" without seeming to advert that the Editor would thus deviate entirely from the plan he proposed to the public at the commencement of his work, to which, as in duty bound, he has ever endeavoured as much as possible to adhere.

THE BEE,

OR

LITERARY WEEKLY INTELLIGENCER,

FOR

WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 9. 1793.

ON THE MOST STRIKING AND CURIOUS PHENOMENA
OF NATURAL HISTORY. BY ARCTICUS.

"The fool says in his heart "there is no God."
And none but a fool would say so.

For the Bee.

MR EDITOR.

Ben Lythorne
WHILST the frantic Gaul glories in the name of
Athiest, and the French senate shakes with loud ap-
plause, these flighty shallow statesmen forget a wise
maxim of their favourite Machiavel, so strongly re-
commended to the study of their rising generation,
who says,

"That whenever the religion of a state falls into dis-
regard and contempt, it is impossible for that state
to continue long."

Surely, of all the species of phrenzy and fanaticism,
which have as yet afflicted human nature, and God

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knows it has suffered enough from the different modifications of those distempers, the present *mania* is the most alarming; as no profession of faith can save the unhappy victims from the murderous *fraternity*, who dance like wild Sybels round the tree of blood, baptising it in that crimson fluid, with the fair name of *liberty*.

To turn then the thoughts of your readers from scenes of so much horror, and to raise their minds to that Supreme Being, so much despised by your more than Gothic neighbours, *to whom I apply the motto of my paper*, I shall give a few of the most striking outlines of a subject, the best calculated of all others to raise admiration, whilst it is one of the most amusing that exists to a rational being,—I mean the *wonders of the creation*.

It has been with much pleasure that I have observed some occasional little extracts in the Bee, from the history and instinct of the larger animals: but there are still other branches of natural history; which offer, like the one you have already taken up, a wide field of innocent and instructive amusement. The branches I allude to, are those of *insects*, with the history, habits, and something like instinct of *plants*; subjects which are as rich in curious matter and entertainment, as any in the whole range of human knowledge.

As a beginning then to such papers in your useful miscellany, I give here an introductory sketch, compiled from authors, on botany and entomology; which if not new to the learned *few*, who make these

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branches a study, it will probably be so to the larger part of your readers, or to what is commonly understood by the word *public*, for which popular essays are invented and calculated; or at least should be so, in every periodical publication of the nature of the Bee.

In taking a general view of natural history, the first thing that strikes us, is the wonderful order and arrangement of the creation. Every species of animal and plant is supported on the particular aliment allotted to it by the Supreme Being, lest the one should deprive the other of its food, and introduce confusion into the beautiful system; and in fact there is no plant hitherto discovered, which does not afford food to some animal, and which in its turn does not require its particular food or soil.

The only exception to this general rule of nature, is the lord of the creation, MAN, who has been allowed a much wider range than any other animal; although even he is circumscribed in some degree, and will be poisoned by productions which afford wholesome food to some other link of the chain; but still the positive assertion of holy writ is perfectly just, "that every thing was made, either directly or indirectly, for the use of man," as even his *poison* becomes his *medicine*, when judiciously employed.

Entomology

If we look still more minutely into the admirable system of the universe, how much will we be ashamed at our occasional peevish complaints, against the numerous swarms of *reptiles* and *insects*, which surround

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us in certain seasons ; as we will find that every one of
them has its task assigned to it for the general good.

Not to dwell on the more evident destination of
birds, beasts, and fishes, of prey, to clear the earth
of all kinds of *dead carcasses*, which would otherwise
corrupt the air and water, there are myriads of *in-*
sects, destined to consume every thing animal and
vegetable, which has ceased to live : and they are so
true to their trust, that they even dispute the pos-
session of the objects committed to their care, *with*
man, when he attempts to appropriate them ; so that
the lord of the creation is obliged to employ all the
resources of his superior faculties, to invent means
of keeping at a distance so minute and insignificant
an enemy, every time he seizes on its destined food.

But as this necessary, not wanton usurpation of
man, on the food of insects, is continual, his clothes,
and indeed every thing he makes use of from the ani-
mal and vegetable kingdoms, coming within the de-
scription, he is obliged to be incessantly on his guard,
to keep off the right owners, which makes the study
of *insects* a necessary branch of economics ; as it is
difficult to guard against an enemy you scarce know
by sight, and of whose stratagems, hiding places,
metamorphoses, &c. you are perfectly ignorant.

This incessant warfare between man and insects,
for his clothes, provisions, furniture, &c. (which
by the bye, you fortunately know little about in the
happy island, comparatively with what is felt on the
three continents), is not without its use in the beau-
tiful system of nature ; as nothing tends so much to
force men to cleanliness and care of his property, nay

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even *person*; precautions so necessary to health and comfort, in either hot or cold climates.

It is only to be regretted, that the progress hitherto made in this branch of natural history, does not as yet furnish us with sufficient means of defence against the different species of *musca* or flies, *curculis* or weavils, *dermestes* or feather-eaters, *phalena* or moths, &c. &c. which destroy our provisions, corn, clothes, furniture, and peltry, &c. although I make no doubt but another generation will possess what we are deficient in; if naturalists pursue their inquiries in entomology, with the same ardor they have done of late years; disregarding the common-place sneer at what is wittily called *moth-hunting*: but the unthinking beau or belle, who makes the remark, little suspects that the *moth* is the declared enemy of all their finery, and the very insect on which they should make war, if they wish to preserve their elegant trappings.

I cannot conclude these general hints on insects. *hostile to man*, without particularizing two which are much more worthy the enmity of Britons than the nibblers of their clothes; I mean the *TEREDO navalis*, or *calamitas navium*, a dangerous enemy to the navy of England, piercing the bottom of ships, and taking up its abode there, with the *CANTHARIS navalis*, an insect which finds means to pierce the hardest oak, whether in a ship or other building. I have in my collection, a piece of petrified oak from the British island of Sheppey, pierced in every direction by the *teredo navalis*, which seems to contradict the opinion of that destructive worm's being brought to us from

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the East Indies ; as in all appearance and probability,
the piece of oak in question was pierced by it in
Sheppey, long before a passage round the Cape was
found to the East.

But man will do well, even for his own personal
safety, to make himself acquainted with the nature
and manœuvres of a much more minute enemy than
any hitherto mentioned, the *ACARI sirones*, which by
lodging in his skin, gives him the loathsome disease
called the *itch* : and as this is the very same insect
which spoils his flour, and turns his cheese to pow-
der, under the well known name of *mites*, by re-
maining ignorant of its history, and mode of attack,
he may get the itch in his own pantry ; nay even at
his own table, without going to the higher lands of
the north in quest of it : at least we know that the
helpless infants of the indigent are often inoculated
for the disease, by powdering their groins with spoiled
flour, instead of white lead, or lycopodium, to pre-
vent excoriation from the urine.

This insect, which the plains of Russia can dis-
pute the possession of, with all the mountaineers of
Europe together, the microscope shows to have
eight feet, with a few hairs on the back, and to
be exactly the mite of cheese and flour, as said a-
bove *.

* Perhaps this opinion of our ingenious correspondent will be dis-
puted. May not the old proverb be here applied, "like is an ill mark."
We know the itch is readily communicated by the touch ; but I have
never heard of it being communicated by mity cheese. *Edit.*

Now, a more speculative man than your correspondent, might hazard a conjecture, that the goat milk cheese, so favourite a food with both the *A-cari*, and the inhabitants of mountains, may in some measure account for the superior prevalency of the itch in those regions; if the fact is true, which I must own I doubt, from my observations in one of the flattest countries of the world, and which certainly does not yield, as hinted above, in that respect, to any elevation above the level of the sea, which the barometer can point out, whilst one of our Russian *pustles* would hold half a dozen of your's in its circumference.

Man may likewise draw great advantages, as well as security, from the study of insects; for, to pass over the well known and valuable silk-worm, the cochineal, lac, and gall insects, &c. he might even save a light, upon some occasions, by naturalizing the curious *CICADA lanternaria* of Surinam; an insect something resembling a locust, which carries a natural lanthorn on its head, sufficient to light you about the streets the darkest night in winter.

In short, was one only to hint in passing, as I am doing, at the multitude of striking and curious phenomena in the history of insects, it would swell a paper to a volume; as it would be impossible to pass unnoticed, *the showers of blood*, related as prodigies by even grave historians, which we now know to have proceeded from the excrement of a flight of the comma butterfly (*cazum* of Linnæus); the no less sinister presage of *the sea turned to blood*, caused by myriads of the red monoc (*MONUCULUS pulex*); the

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alarm occasioned by the jasamine hawk moth (*SPHINX atropos*), crying like an infant, and bearing the figure of a death's head on its back, &c. &c.

But to return to my subject, viz. *the important task assigned to insects*, in the beautiful economy of nature, I must remark, that the Almighty has not confined his orders and agents merely to the destruction of matter which has ceased to live and vegetate ; for he has likewise provided against dangerous luxuriance in either the animal or vegetable kingdoms, and set bounds to excessive multiplication of any particular species, by admirable checks of different kinds, which will of course be pointed out by others, in the prosecution of a subject of which I have only undertaken to give a rough out-line, to excite rather than satisfy curiosity. I shall just observe, in finishing my sketch on *insects*, that our fields and gardens are more particularly exposed to those charged with this last commission, (viz. to prevent excessive multiplication of any particular vegetable), for that purpose myriads of *crysomella*, *curculis*, *phalæna*, &c. have received orders, and like the former class, charged with the destruction of dead matter, are so dilligent, that growing vegetables are with difficulty guarded against them by all the ingenuity of man, at least before their transmigration ; for it is in the state of caterpillars, or larvæ, that insects are most to be dreaded ; although the genus of *gryllus* is sufficiently destructive in its perfect state of a fly, particularly the terrible *GRYLLUS migratorius*, or locust of scripture, which still occasionally lays waste certain countries, whilst it furnishes constant food to the naked savages

of others, who wait its periodical arrival as Europeans do a shoal of herrings* ; however, it is impossible not to observe even in public calamities, the goodness of the creator, who renders his occasional instruments of punishment to one portion of the human species, constant blessings to another.

In a second letter, I shall finish my sketch as far as intended by

ARCTICUS.

FRAGMENTS OF LORD BACON.

Art of life.

Continued from p. 172. and concluded.

* * * * As it is characteristick of the human nature, in distinction from all others, to be inquisitive, fanciful, and religious, so in the subject matter of religion itself, it is of the nature of man to be indefinitely various and whimsical, and since it is conceded by the most rigid and self assuming orthodox divines, that our Saviour came not to annul the obligations of natural religion, but to fulfil and direct them to our everlasting happiness, so it is no small part of the art of life, to prepare in old age for death, without harassing either ones self or others, with modes of faith, which, as to the main point of happiness either here or hereafter, is declared by the founder of our religion to be of no account.

* We are told that John lived in the wilderness on locusts and wild honey.

Now, as ever since the days of the emperor Constantine, the church has been intimately united to the state, and supported by its authority, it is the part of a prudent man to enjoy his religious thoughts in private, and sacrifice his cock unto Esculapius.

Death may be compared unto a mathematical point, which is in itself nothing but a termination; and therefore it becomes a wise and a good man, rather to reflect in old age upon what is past, than what is to come, seeing that no material change can be wrought either upon his affections, or upon his understanding.

He will do well to make himself acceptable to his relations and domestics, if he has any; and if not to those who are near unto him, and minister unto his necessities in the feebleness of his condition.

He will do well to meditate upon the manifold comforts and mercies of his past life, and to solace himself with the company of contemplative and worthy persons, who may, without gloom or superstition, converse with him upon the satisfaction that arises from the satiety of human pursuits, as relating to the objects of sensual desire, and of the happy state that is created by intellectual curiosity, and meditation; and resignation to the ordination of nature to which he is soon about to be subjected in death.

Having long accustomed himself to the habitudes that make old age amiable and respectable, and now finding the infirmities and weakness of his body to increase, addicting himself to frequent prayer to the

father of spirits, he will be ready meekly to surrender his life unto him who gave it.

Non jam se moriens dissolvi conqueratur,
Sed magis ire foras, vestemque relinquere ut anguis
Gauderet, prælonga Senex aut Cornua Cervus.

End of the fragments of lord Bacon, on the art of life.

AN INQUIRY INTO THE CAUSE

OF THE PRESENT STAGNATION IN BUSINESS.

It is common enough for individuals to over-trade themselves : companies sometimes do the same ; but for a nation to over-trade itself, has scarce been apprehended before ; yet as the symptoms are precisely the same as in the case of an individual when over-trading himself, we need seek for no other cause for the present distress in the trading part of the nation ; for the amazing extent to which trade was carried on by the British merchants, was a good deal of it upon fictitious stock, for such is paper currency when ever it is issued beyond what there is a real deposit of property for the value. The very form of the promissary notes in circulation proves this, for they are all for value received, which is supposed to be the deposit, to answer the credit of the notes. But where (in too many cases) was the deposit, when it came to be called for ? This shews the bad effects of

an unlimited issuing of paper currency.* It may augment the imaginary stock of a nation, to any amount, while the real stock remains just the same, or is perhaps daily decreasing by a losing trade.

As all over-trading has got the name of speculation; that is a person speculating upon an imaginary profit; that is to arise to him at some distant period, from the goods he is buying; and what has given so great encouragement to speculation is, the long credits given on goods bought up for the export trade, twelve months commonly. It is true if the merchant pays ready money, he gets a discount of $7\frac{1}{2}$ per cent. This is one way of raising the interest of money from 5 per cent. the legal, to $7\frac{1}{2}$ per cent. for so much every merchant pays who takes the credit. But how prejudicial high interest is to the export trade of a country may be seen by the following example.

Suppose an Englishman and a Dutchman, have each a 1000 l. lying at interest in their respective countries; they meet and agree to employ this money in a joint venture, to a foreign market, and call in their money that they may buy to the best advantage. After eighteen months, they have their returns: the net proceeds amount to just 2150 l. The Dutchman finds

* Does not the ingenious writer here use the phrase *paper currency* in too loose and indefinite a sense. The writer here seems to confound what is commonly called wind bills with real bills granted for goods received, in the usual course of business, which ought surely to be distinguished from this. It does not seem that any well founded censure can be applied to the discounting of real bills; and it was owing to the want of this accommodation that the best manufacturers have suffered so severely. No good reason seems yet to be assigned, why the practice of discounting *these* bills should have met with obstruction. Edit.

he has made 30 l. more than if he had suffered his money to continue at interest for the time ; but the Englishman has not a penny more than just the interest of his money, so will probably return his money to interest again, while the Dutchman has encouragement to continue the trade. But suppose another merchant buys at the same time, and takes the credit : as he pays $7\frac{1}{2}$ per cent. more for his goods, though sold equally well with the others, his net proceeds do not exceed the original cost, and as his bills falls due, six months before he has his returns, he is obliged to put off the time, by the help of bills of accommodation, which cannot be supposed to stand him less than 3 per cent. as they would be to renew twice in the time ; so that he loses just as much as the Dutchman gains, supposing all other circumstances equal.

And so far the higher rate of interest and the long credit is against the export trade. To save this, so many merchants got into the trade of issuing promissary notes, instead of cash, in their payments : and thus trading upon an imaginary stock, no wonder if they extended their business beyond all rule of prudence, and at the same time engrossing all the trade to themselves, as they had such an advantage over the merchant who was trading on real stock, as the outlay of the money must be reckoned by him as an article in the cost of his goods, viz. the interest the money would have brought him in the time, if he had not employed it in trade ; whereas the others lay out no money, though they seem still to buy for ready money. The multiplicity of private banks, there-

fore, has been the chief cause of the present distress on the trading part of the nation: their credit being by so many failures rendered doubtful, has withdrawn at once the imaginary stock furnished by them for the carrying on of trade.

It is a difficult matter to restrain an improper use of credit without hurting credit itself, which is so necessary for the carrying on of an extensive business; but perhaps the following proposals might restrain the private banking within proper bounds.

Let there be a charter bank established in every considerable trading town in Britain, where a capital of 100,000 l. could be employed to advantage in the banking business, upon the following conditions.

1. That before they issue any notes for circulation, they shall lodge four fifths of the capital stock contained in their charter in government's hands, at 3 *per cent.* for the security of the holders of their notes, and at the same time this deposit be admitted as a compensation for the stamp tax; so that their notes or bills be free from that tax, in the same manner as the notes of the bank of England are: that the 4 *per cents.* shall be taken at par for the whole or any part of the deposit money, for which reason each of these banks shall be allowed to take in of that stock to the amount of four fifths of their charter capital, either by purchase at the market price, or by giving stock for them at such rates as they can agree with the stockholders.

2. That the remaining fifth to lie in the bank, be employed in no other trade but the purchase of either bullion or bills of exchange.

3. That no single person or trading house shall hold more than 5000 l. stock in any one of these banks (except the bank of England, who may hold a fourth of the capital stock in any of them, if they chuse.)

This article may be understood chiefly for those that shall be erected south of the Tweed ; for as the revenue in Scotland is mostly, if not all, collected to Edinburgh, to be transmitted from thence to the treasury, if the three charter banks in Edinburgh could agree to unite into one, this united bank in Edinburgh might be allowed the same privilege to hold the fourth of the capital stock in all the charter banks erected in any place in Scotland.

4. That the first twelve persons who shall subscribe for a thousand pounds or upwards, shall act as directors, till the capital stock is filled up, and for this purpose may apply for a charter, fix the amount of the capital, and as soon as they have obtained their charter, advertise on what terms they will give stock for the 4 *per cents*. But the subscription money to be lodged either in the bank of England, or bank of Scotland, and to be employed no otherwise but in buying up 4 *per cents*. till the whole capital contained in the charter be filled up.

5. To prevent the pernicious practice of stockjobbing, that no person subscribing to any of these banks, shall be allowed either to sell or transfer any part of his stock in the bank, until twelve months after the date of the charter ; and even after this, all sales of these bank's stock, shall be by public sale, after

a fortnight's advertisement in the nearest newspaper.

6. That as soon as the capital is made up, and the deposit placed in government's hands, the interim directors shall appoint a meeting of the proprietors, to chuse their directors, and settle the plan for carrying on their business to the best advantage.

Lastly, As touching the deposite in government's hands, should such a run be made on any of these banks as the cash in bank is not sufficient to answer, it shall be lawful for them to draw on the exchequer to the amount of one fourth part of their deposit money; and if this be not sufficient to answer the run made on them at the end of six weeks, they may draw another fourth part, and so on till the whole of the deposit money be drawn out; but in the mean time they shall cease from issuing notes till the whole of the deposit money be paid into the exchequer again, with legal interest for the time it has been out; and if they be not able to do this in twelve months, reckoned from the time of their first draught, their charter shall be forfeited, and the company dissolved.

And if at the same time there be a law made forbidding any promissary notes to pass in circulation under 5l. sterling in value, the charter banks would in a great measure remove the temptation to private banking, as any person who had stock for that purpose, might be a proprietor in the charter bank most convenient for him; or if his stock was so large he might be a proprietor severals just as suited his business best, and as

the forbidding the circulation of promissary notes under 5 l. value, would subject the whole of the private banker's circulation to the stamp tax, it would at least circumscribe their business so far as to prevent a few failures amongst them putting a stop to the trade of the nation again. The trading part of the nation wants a supply of real stock to carry on their trade with, instead of the fictitious stock furnished them by the private banks, which is now evanished all at once; and it is only the stockholders or public creditors that can furnish them with this; for amongst the landed men at an average, there are as many borrowers as lenders, and such of them as are in condition to lend, commonly prefer landed security to a merchant's bond; but the public creditors have the stock to lend, and certainly may do it greatly to their own advantage, for they certainly would make rather better than 5 *per cent*, for the stock that now only yields them four, and as to any rise in the stocks, it is more than probable, that the bank stocks would rise much faster than the four *per cents*. The greatest hazard is that they should rise too suddenly above the real value, like the South Sea, for which reason I propose forbidding the transferring them for a twelvemonth, by which time the real value may be better ascertained than it can be by any preceding calculation; and should only twenty millions of the four *per cents* be taken in that way, it would be a saving 200,000 l. a year to government, in reducing the interest one *per cent*, on so much of the public debt, and I am persuaded the

imaginary stock furnished by the private banks, amounted to much more than that sum ; then consider how much safer it would be for the nation to be trading on real than imaginary stock.

ON THE PROGRESS AND EXTENT

OF THE COTTON MANUFACTURES OF BRITAIN.

J. A.
WITHOUT entering minutely into an investigation of all the arguments above, far less into a discussion of the practicability of the plan of the bank proposed, there seems to be no room for doubting, that the general principle assumed by this writer, is well founded, viz. that our manufactures were pushed to an extravagant pitch in point of extent, and that owing to this circumstance alone, sooner or later, a stagnation in respect to sales must have been experienced, which could not fail to produce effects somewhat similar to those which have been lately experienced. And though certain circumstances might have tended to retard or to accelerate this catastrophe, yet in the train we were in, this was certainly unavoidable ; and if so perhaps the sooner the check was experienced, the less severely it will be felt in the end. The opinion here given, is grounded on the following authentic document.

The select committee of the house of commons appointed to take into consideration the state of the export trade from great Britain to the East Indies,

upon the cotton manufactures of this country, in their report dated 4th Feb. 1793, state the following facts, with a view to exhibit a comparative view of the progress of the cotton manufacture in Britain, and the extent of sales of Indian piece goods.

<i>Years.</i>	<i>Value of piece goods sold by the company.</i>	<i>Pounds weight of cotton impor- ted.</i>	<i>Value of cot- ton goods ma- nufactured in Britain in pounds Sterling.</i>
1771	£. 1,435,475	2,677,042	
1772	1,653,912	5,390,685	
3	1,797,508	3,097,591	
4	1,815,008	5,816,363	
5	1,609,597	6,841,354	
6	1,621,777	6,380,705	
7	1,660,892	7,401,671	
8	1,663,069	7,393,044	
9	747,121	4,790,016	
1780	1,257,868	7,564,620	
1	850,703	5,198,778	
2	1,287,110	11,811,781	
3	1,143,046	7,816,645	£. 3,200,000
4	1,055,722	11,482,083	3,950,000
5	1,560,847	18,400,384	6,000,000
6	1,570,217	19,475,020	6,500,000
7	1,439,043	23,250,268	7,500,000
8	1,202,871	20,467,436	
9	1,229,360	32,576,023	
1790	1,752,356	31,447,605	

This account comes no lower down than 1790, but we all know that the cotton works were greatly extended in the years 1791 and 1792, so that by reasoning from analogy from what has gone before, we cannot compute that the quantity of cotton wool im-

ported in 1792 could be under 40,000,000 lbs, nor that the value of cotton goods manufactured from it could be less than 15,000,000 l. but if in the course of ten years, the value of this branch of manufacture rose from two to fifteen millions, and if our exertions to extend it farther and farther continued, it is easy to see, that a time must soon come, when that progressive extension must be stopped ; especially when we advert that other nations were at the same time availing themselves of those very machines which had given us that temporary advantage, and thus supplying themselves with this commodity. Yet so blind were many persons, that they believed, as it should seem, that this business never could be over-done, and from the amazing rapidity of its progress for some years past, they augured that its progress would be accelerated in time to come without end !!

While this subject is under review, it may not prove unsatisfactory to the reader to see an accurate account of the places from whence we obtained the raw materials for this extensive manufacture, which the above named committee have enabled us to do. These are as under :

An account of the quantity of *wool cotton* imported into Great Britain, between the 5th of January

1794 on the cotton manufactures. 213

1790, and the 5th of January 1791; distinguishing
the countries from whence imported.

	<i>England.</i> <i>lib. weight</i>	<i>Scotland,</i> <i>lib. weight</i>	<i>Aggregate</i> <i>in lbs</i>
Denmark & Norway,	469,000	657	505,843
Germany, - - -	36,186		
Holland, - - -	1,146,033	90,500	2,254,420
A. Flanders, - - -	517,974		
F. Flanders, - - -	499,913		8,570,314
France, - - - -	3,964,637	3,360	
Portugal, - - -	4,590,784	11,533	494,349
Spain, - - - -	104,520	600	
Italy, - - - -	364,309	12,920	4,422,872
Venice, - - - -	12,000		
Turkey, - - - -	4,422,872		376,655
Ireland, - - -	5,431	23,646	
United States of A-			
merica, - - -	345,492	2,086	
Remaining colonies			
ditto, - - - -	821,082	35,954	
Anguilla, - - -	277,354	13,599	
Antigua, - - -	361,337	55,134	
Barbadoes, - - -	893,283	524,776	14,100,246
Dominica, - - -	426,329		
Grenada, - - -	3,037,206	973,372	
Jamaica, - - -	3,382,164	617,279	
Montserrat, - - -	213,370		
Nevis, - - - -	10,213		
St. Kitts, - - -	784,621	251,262	
St. Vincents, - - -	1,141,173	69,707	
Tortola, - - -	143,136	67,985	667,229,906
Foreign W. Indies,	168,068	114,182	
Africa, - - - -	5,699		
Asia, - - - -	434,823		
All other parts, -	134		
<i>Total.</i>	28,579,143	2,868,462	31,447,605

The vict'ry gain'd, with glowing wheels
 In brazen armour dazzling bright,
 A conscious pride the hero feels;
 Hypsypile stands in his sight.

To her when called to wear the crown,
 He cries exulting "I am he!
 Altho' my head be hoary grown,
 But this in youth we sometimes see.

My heart and hand with equal speed,
 If this can merit any praise,
 Conceive and execute the deed
 deserving of immortal lays.

MICA.

THE VISITOR.

To nature, on earth, a short visit we pay,
 That visit, at longest, no more than a day;
 We rise in the morning with tears in our eye.
 Says nature, and gives us a rattle, "dout cry."
 We sit down to breakfast, 'tis gone in a trice,
 And well we remember our mother's advice;
 The tears from our eyes we wipe off too soon,
 And play the farce pastime through all the forenoon.
 With a short grace, if any, we sit down to dine;
 At the feast we forget that the day will decline.
 'Tis declining already, for if you can see,
 Tho' you told the clock twelve, mark the hand! that's at three.
 Over coffee and tea how we trifle and prate,
 'Till ev'ning, and then, who'd have thought it so late?
 Says nature, "arise, make your bow, and away,
 My chaise at the door and the driver wont stay."
 Reluctant we enter, the reason I know,
 We are not quite sure to what inn we shall go:
 Inn! that's not the word, and we know it too well,
 For homeward we go, and are going to dwell.
 And are we quite sure we will dwell at our ease?
 And shall we reside just as long as we please?
 That, that is the point, but where'er we retire,
 The lease of our dwelling will never expire.
 Mankind are the visitors, warn'd at the thought,
 At your visit behave as such visitors ought.

AN ACCOUNT OF PERSIAN COTTON,

COMMUNICATED BY ARCTICUS.

Being a translation of a paper presented to the royal economical society of St. Petersburg by Mr. ———

GENTLEMEN,

ALLOW me to have the honour of presenting to you some grains of cotton seed. This seed is gathered principally in Persia, and is bought in the markets, from the peasants, who bring it in small packets, from half a pound to two or three pounds. It is even difficult to collect any quantity of it; and it cost the person who furnished me with this sample, a great deal of time and trouble to collect three poods, which cost him nearly 3000 rubles.

The sale of this seed is not unknown at Smyrna; but what you see here, gentlemen, was bought from Boucharian merchants trading with Russia, and it is besides of a superior quality to what is found commonly at Smyrna, from whence the French obtained it formerly to cultivate in their colonies, as well as the Maltese, who have also reaped so much advantage from it among their rocks, that it is to be feared their sweet oranges, so famous, and which were very lucrative to them, will soon disappear, although the only production of traffic, till within these few years, of their burning and barren rocks, to give place to another kind of cultivation as useful, and a great deal more profitable.

The Portuguese have sent this seed to Brazil, where its cultivation has had a wonderful success, in a climate and soil perfectly adapted to its production, so much so, that in a few years, the plant, by the constant and continued attention of her ministers, flourished so well that it

may be compared with the golden fleece of the Greeks. It is this, gentlemen, that has induced me to give you this information, and to lay before you the great occasional, though important consequences, that result from the researches of men who reflect, who discover, and who communicate.

It may be asked what is my conclusion from this fact? There it is. The Portuguese nation, formerly born down by a balance of trade quite against her, had drained all her treasures. France, Germany, Holland, and especially England, possessed them, if we may be allowed the expression, before ever they had sent them from America, and from the east coast of Africa. Her gold was found every where; it was even in my time the most common current specie over all Great Britain, and in all her colonies. From one end to the other of England all payments were generally made in moidores of Portugal; they abounded even when guineas were rare, and really difficult to be got; but in proportion as that nation embraced more and more the cultivation of sugar, and especially of cotton, the balance of trade has taken a change. She now pays the manufactures of the north with these new raw productions; and their gold by little and little diminished, and finally disappeared entirely from foreign countries. And I maintain, that, if it were allowed to me to enter into a like detail, to show that this seed is more precious and more useful to them than their mines of gold and of diamonds, and perhaps will make her directly shut up for ever both the one and the other, and never to set a foot on the banks of the Gambia, or at Mosambique; but to pursue assiduously the two objects of which I have been speaking. It would be then that they might with truth sing their *Tagus auri*, their Tagus with golden sands. Such are the inestimable fruits of industry, and of the

useful researches of true philosophers, which conduct men to their solid happiness, in their industry, in their labours, for which their creator has formed and destined them.

The Russian empire contains climates and soils perfectly proper for this cultivation. I declare to you, gentlemen, that if I had the means, I should be even jealous to see any one going before me in putting the first hand to it. I am with a very profound respect, Gentlemen. &c.

LITERARY OLLA. No. x.

For the Bee.

Gray the Poet, — A dialogue concerning Youth.

Continued from p. 181.

Walpole. I see you are a close and faithful disciple of Locke ; but may it not be plausibly objected to his system, that he begins with that which ought to be the final purpose and finishing stroke of education.

Gray. I think not. I rather conceive that the objection arises from an incorrect view of the subject.

The very vocable expressive of instructing young people (I believe in most languages,) is explanatory of Mr Locke's system, and of my meaning. *Education* is in its significant analysis, a leading, or a drawing forth of the elements of reason, for the establishment of a reasonable, useful, and benevolent creature, in a prudent and respectable member of human society.

By observing the discourse and actions of children, it may easily be perceived that they begin to exercise the faculty of combining their ideas, of comparing, one with the other the objects of their immediate attention, and arranging these things according to the design they have conceived.

Such is the first effort of reason, which is nothing more than the faculty of arranging.

If it so happens that children are defective in their combinations, this defect generally arises from their want of attention to some intermediate idea which their eagerness made them lose sight of, though it is often an idea very simple in its nature, and much within the extent of their capacities. This is the important moment to suggest this idea to them, and they will speedily, of their own accord, correct their reasoning.

In this manner, in my opinion, children may be taught to reason by reasoning with them. We too much undervalue the capacities of children, and too highly over-rate our own.

Suppose a child to be scrawling on some paper, and that he makes an attempt at drawing the likeness of a man and a house.

He draws the man out of all proportion to the house. Take him out of doors, and let him see his error. He then begins to lay things together, and attempts to make these objects proportionate. How many results he may be made to draw from so simple an accident! and how much may not his rational faculties be enlarged by judicious management!

The next step, with respect to a child; and this you will think very strange, is to give him an idea of government; and I would give it him thus. He has a little message to go, and as a reward for his going it properly, I give him a bit of cake. A stronger boy ravishes it from him, and he comes to complain.

I call the other boys together, and I inquire into the truth of the matter. It is proven; and then I make the boys, in their turn, say whether they think the robber ought to be punished. They all agree that he robbed the child; and I punish the delinquent: but not till two days afterwards, that it may be done seriously and calmly, without the appearance of revenge. The boy who was robbed comes

himself to intercede, and I greatly commend him ; but I do not mitigate the punishment of the delinquent. The whole of this operation teaches the boy and his companions the nature of *justice*, and the benefit of government, or at least gives them the ideas of power and protection, of good and evil, duty, authority, and obedience.

West. I am very much struck with the simplicity and force of this reasoning, and it agrees with my own experience.

In the summer of the year 1737, being then of Christ Church College, I passed some weeks most agreeably at a gentleman's house in the country, who had a fine young family of children, of whose education both he and his wife took a singular and most successful direction.

I remember I was highly pleased with their manner of teaching them the principles of duty, good conduct, and benevolence.

I shall mention a few of the occasions on which they artfully infused important good principles into their children.

One of their children had, in spite of repeated injunctions, climbed up a tree in a dangerous situation, close by the river.

When fawning on his mother, and professing tender love to her, she said " No no, dont talk to me any more of your love, if you loved me you would obey me, and not make me unhappy by exposing yourself to danger."

Again. Another of her children having got himself into an out-house. locks the door upon himself, and cannot open it again ; he remains there two hours in agony, and is relieved by a beggar boy, who passing by, goes in by the window and lets out the child.

He runs home in transport, but for some time forgets his deliverer. The father asks him how he got out ? Who let him out ? and where is the beggar ? You little

rascal, will you endeavour to do nothing for the poor beggar. Then the heart of the little boy is all on fire to do something for his benefactor, and he begs a dinner for him, and something for covering his nakedness in the rigour of winter.

Will you give up your own dinner *then* to day for the beggar? Yes, and to-morrow too, and the day after to-morrow too, papa!

This was a fine lesson. Let a child be born in whatever rank of life he may, we cannot too often remind him of the miseries of life, and the vicissitude of fortune, or too often inculcate the lessons of gratitude and of benevolence.

Again. One of the girls was particularly fond of trappings and dress.

One day her mother, after having chid her for this folly, orders a fine saddle and furniture to be put upon an ass; and bringing the girl that way, she tells her that she has got a fine little *pad* to show her, and produces the ass in *gala*.

Dear mama! that a'nt a horse! that's nothing but the milk ass, mama.

O no my dear, it was the milk ass in the morning, but now you see I have made it a fine pad by putting this saddle and furniture upon her. It's fine clothes you know miss, that distinguishes you from the poor girls in the village, and so if they had your fine clothes they would be fine misses too, woud'nt they? The girl saw the force of the ridicule immediately, and not long after the force of the argument.

These are, I think, moral lessons that are not above the capacity of children, and may, when the occasions offer, be successfully raised in order to inspire them with a love of virtue, and to deter them from the practice of vice.

Walpole. Gentlemen, your system is good, and your illustrations are admirable; but how will you contrive to

get your plan put in execution? At the age when young people of fashion do the physical world and the beau-monde the honour to beget and produce sons and daughters, *they*, the illustrious parents, are too busy with the duties of a court, of the ridotto, the opera, the card table, and the pleasures of social intercourse, to have any leisure for superintending the education of children; so that they *wisely* make use of the noble privilege of pcegrage to decide the merits of the question *by proxy*, without hearing or attending to the arguments.

A party always comes in the way to prevent them from attending to the nursery

Vive la jeunesse! Vive la joye! Vive le beau-monde!

A squib from the American Gazette.

AN APPEAL FROM THE LEGS TO THE HEAD.

FOR A MORE EQUAL PARTICIPATION OF RIGHTS AND PRIVILEGES.

Sheweth,

THAT the legs coming into the world at the same time, and often *before the head*, the latter cannot, in point of birth, claim any greater privilege than the former.

That the legs have been always of the utmost importance and utility to the *head*, conducting it to and from all places of business, profit, and pleasure, and were the first who *raised* it to its present *exalted station*.

That in *armies*, the legs have been *occasionally* found a grand *specific* against gunshot wounds, bruises, dislocations, and even *death* itself, by *running away with the head to a place of safety*; witness a late great example, where the legs, by the wonderful and almost *unprecedented powers of their swiftness*, saved little short of four thousand magnanimous, freeborn Frenchmen.

That in many particular classes of life, the legs actually, and *bona fide*, support the head altogether, as in couriers

chairmen, running footmen, dancing-masters, corn-cutters, penny postmen, and rope dancers.

That in consequence of these, and many other similar benefits, of which they are to the head. They conceive they ought no longer to submit to those base offices which are assigned them.

That it is an hardship, an injustice, and a degree of *slavery*, incompatible with the rights and privileges of free-born legs, daily to be obliged to wade through muck and dirt, *supporting the whole weight of the head*, who often sits up in lazy state, curled, bedizened, and bepowdered.

That the legs are entitled to some nobler capacity, some more elevated situation.

That having nerves as well as the head (the pretended seat of intelligence,) their opinions ought not only to be taken, and their will consulted, but all the arrears due to their birth and long services, fully and completely allowed them.

That for this purpose, and availing themselves of the present *topsy turvy disposition* of the world: they demand, claim, and insist, that the present position of mankind (which they have arrogantly enjoyed now near six thousand years) be instantly shifted, and that all men in future be obliged to stand upon their heads, instead of their legs, an elevation which the legs conceive they have been long since fully entitled to by the laws of rotation, and which they likewise conceive to be most likely to produce that equality of representation, which should always be preserved by members of the same body.

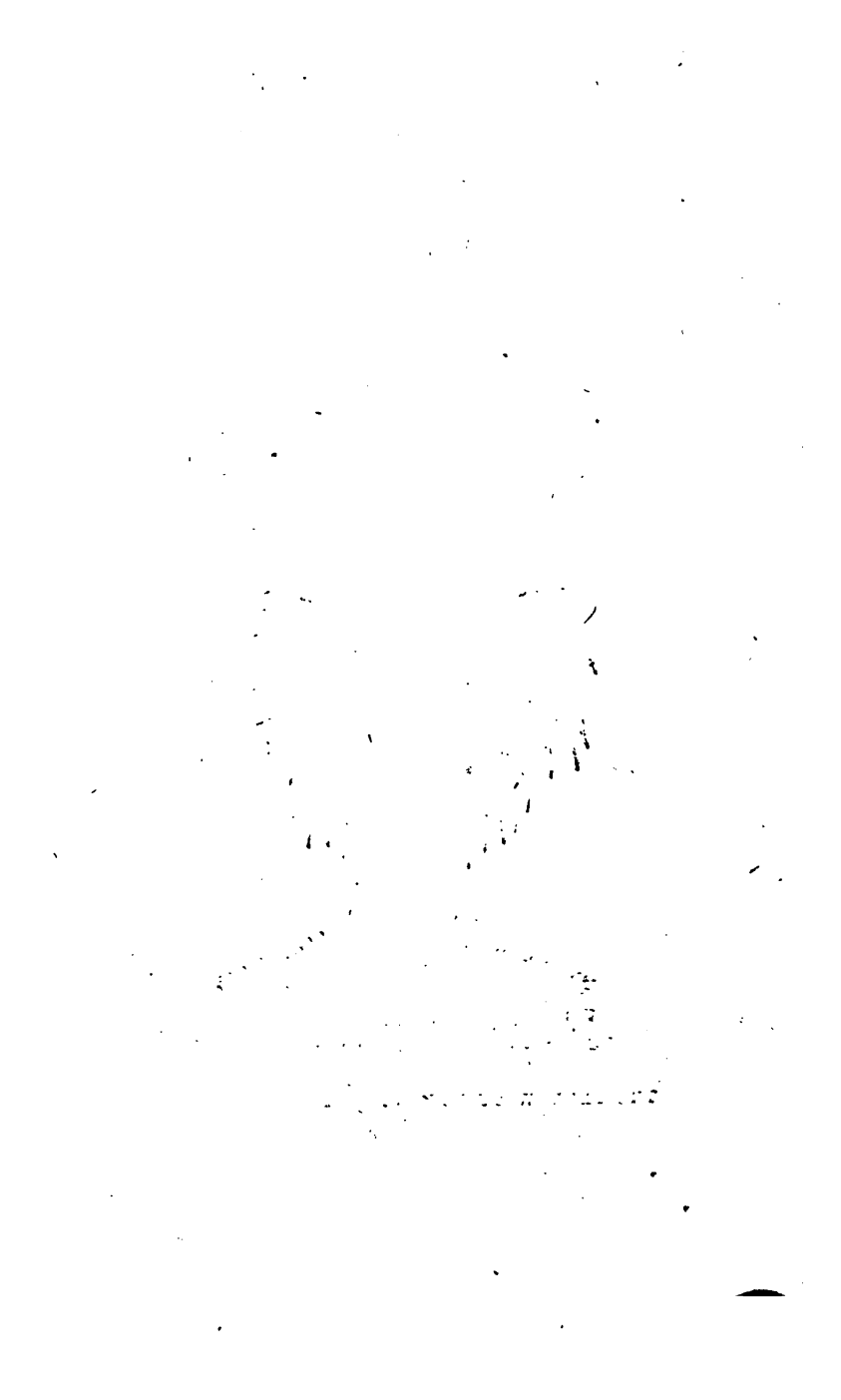
Signed by, and in behalf of himself, and the associate legs of Great Britain and Ireland;

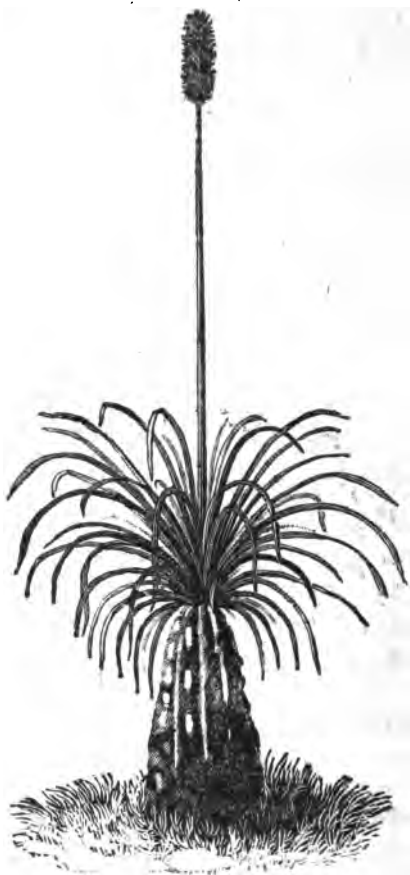
April the first,

World turned up-side down.

Bandy leg walk.

LEG BAIL.





THE YELLOW GUM PLANT OF BOTANY BAY.

THE BEE,

OR

LITERARY WEEKLY INTELLIGENCER,

FOR

WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 16. 1793.

DESCRIPTION OF A SINGULAR PLANT FROM BOTANY
BAY.

J. A.
With a figure.

THE plate that accompanies this number, exhibits a representation of one of the most singular vegetable productions that has been discovered in our late settlement in New South Wales. The stump is perennial, but the leaves and seed stalk are annual. The perennial stump rises to the height of six feet or thereby, is of a conical shape, and hard consistence; but whether it be internally of a fibrous texture like wood, my information does not enable me to say. On the surface it is covered all over with blind wart like tubercles or excrescences, somewhat resembling the protuberances of pollards, that swell out below the place where the tree has been cut over; but from these no stems ever shoot forth. There oozes out from the whole of its surface a great abundance of a viscid juice, of a yellowish colour, which accumulating in the hollows, becomes a semifluid concretion

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of a gummy nature, which the natives make use of
for nearly the same purposes as we might do tar;
employing it as a kind of cement for joining pieces
of wood together. But though they be often much
pinched for want of food, I do not find that ever they
have been observed to eat it. The qualities of this
gummy substance have not, that I know of, been
ascertained by any chemical analysis, or economical
experiments. It seems not to be in the smallest de-
gree of an inflammable nature: for though it is very
common in those parts for the natives to set fire to
the dry grafs that at certain seasons covers the whole
surface of the ground, and though by that means
these stumps that grow up among it are in general
so scorched as to have assumed a black and smoky
appearance, yet they never seem to have actually
taken fire, or to have suffered any material injury
from that cause.

The leaves are broader and more rigid than any
kind of grafs known in Europe, but they are neither
so stiff nor so thick as the finest of the aloe tribe.
The flower stem is solid, not tubulated nor jointed.
It is of a firm, woody, fibrous consistence, very tough
and elastic. It rises to the height of six feet or more,
and is quite straight, and smooth on the surface; it
is therefore employed by the natives for shafts to
their darts, and other purposes of that sort. I should
think that some of these rods must have been brought
to Britain. But none of them that I have heard of
have as yet reached Scotland. On the top it sup-
ports a panicle containing seeds, the whole panicle
not unlike in appearance to that of the elymus are-

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aria; but its botanical characters I have not been
able to ascertain.

The Europeans there commonly distinguish it by
the name of the yellow gum tree.

Some seeds that were sent to the Botanic garden
here under that name, have vegetated. The plants
have at present exactly the appearance of a kind of
grafs, not having as yet discovered the rudiments
of any kind of a stump rising above ground.

ON THE BEST MODE OF CARRYING BURDENS.

J. A. Smith.
For the Bee.

TRAVELLERS of learning and refined taste are, by the
publishing of their discoveries and observations, con-
tinually furnishing instruction and amusement to men
of letters and philosophical speculation; whilst men
in a more humble situation, such as I, to whom the
description of a painting, the dimensions of a statue,
or the analysis of a piece of ore, can afford no enter-
tainment, must confine their observations to the rud-
er and more common objects that occur in society, and
elude the attention of those more accomplished per-
sons. Confined, however, as our range must be in
our humble sphere, we may perhaps sometimes have
it in our power to suggest to the public overlooked
trifles that may in some degree promote the welfare
of man.

In this view, I shall send to the Bee my observa-
tions in a journey to London, on a very common ob-
ject.

The porters in Edinburgh, and I suppose throughout Scotland, when carrying a burden on the back, stoop forward, and pass the belt to which the weight is appended, over the top of the head; by which means, if the burden is nearly of as great a weight as the body would be able to bear, the head must be much hurt, and health of course impaired. Practice however renders them insensible of the inconvenience; and as men usually do, they follow implicitly the custom handed down to them from their parents, without ever thinking of the advantage or even possibility of any other method of carrying their burdens.

On the same principle, another equally absurd and still more pernicious practice is continued by the bakers in Scotland. Their apprentices, usually at first young boys, carry the bread to their customers over the whole town, on a board resting solely upon the head, without any thing that can in the smallest degree alleviate the pressure on that tender part of the body, still more tender in those growing youths than in up-grown men. Hence it is evident that either their constitutions must be impaired, or less work can be done than there would, if a better manner of doing it were adopted. A person that never saw or heard of any other mode of procedure, is not much struck with these absurdities, as they are rendered familiar by habit, and an improvement on them does not readily suggest itself. This is also the case in regard to many other articles of domestic economy; for a person travelling through the country sees in an infinite number of particulars a different practice pre-

vail in one county from that which is followed in another, without any attending circumstances that could authorise a difference, the one of which is much better than the other, and prevented from being made universal, merely by ignorance and established custom. Such ignorance ought to be removed; and on that account I am eager to mention the practice that prevails in London in carrying burdens, by which not only the danger of injuring the health of the labourer is removed, but also a man can with ease carry a burden a half heavier than he could by the Edinburgh mode; it is simply thus:

A firm cushion stuffed with straw in the form of a crescent, the two horns joined by a piece of belt, is put on the shoulders, the joining belt being passed over the forehead to prevent the whole from slipping off. The cushion being as deep as the height of the head and neck, the whole weight of the burden rests upon it, and of course ultimately on the shoulders, whilst the man stands nearly erect, (the position in which he has the most *carrying* strength,) and the head remains unhurt. This very simple and efficacious instrument, the London porters call a knot; and in my opinion it ought to be recommended to all persons carrying burdens, and particularly to the baker's apprentices.

But if the *porters* in London discover more judgment than those of Edinburgh, the Leith *carters* on the other hand excel those of London in a still higher degree; for there can be no doubt, that a single man with a *poor* horse not worth ten pounds, and a light Leith cart, will perform as much, I would even ven-

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ture to say more work, in a day, than a lubberly
London carter with his huge waggon and three horses like elephants, can do ; as could be easily demonstrated were it not for taking up too much of your room.

It is by thus comparing the practice of the people in one part of the country, with that of another, in things that are common to both, that the mind of a sensible man is enlarged by travelling ; and in this way it may prove useful even to

Edinburgh Aug. 1793. A CITY TRAVELLER.

THOUGHTS ON WHAT IS CALLED *VARIETIES*, OR DIFFERENT BREEDS OF DOMESTIC ANIMALS, SUGGESTED BY READING DR PALLAS'S ACCOUNT OF RUSSIAN SHEEP.

J. A.
Continued from p. 161.

THESE observations may tend to explain in some measure the cause of a fact that has been often noted, but never, that I know of, accounted for ; viz. that animals in a wild state, preserve in general, a great uniformity of colour, and are little diversified in appearance, whereas among domesticated animals, a much greater variety is observable in the colour and appearance of the individuals of the same kind.

This phenomenon I think may be thus explained : when an individual of an uncommon colour or appearance chances to be produced, especially for the first time, among a race of domestic animals, which before that period were generally uniform, it would

be looked upon as a great curiosity, it would of course be valued—preserved with care—and its descendants, if bearing marks of the same sort, also preserved. A male and female of this kind being once obtained, this diversified breed would be perpetuated; and these afterwards intermingling with others, would destroy the uniformity of appearance of the wild breed. Another diversity of colour or appearance, being in the same way selected, this also would occasion fresh room for new diversities. By a similar mode of selection, continued for ages, some persons fancying one variety, and some another, it must at last happen that the diversities will become so numerous, as that the original breed can scarcely be distinguished from the others.

Now, although similar accidental diversities of an individual, sometimes occur in a state of nature, these, for the reasons above assigned, are quickly lost; and the general breed continues unvaried. That such diversities sometimes do occur among wild animals, is well known by every collector of natural curiosities. I have myself seen a blackbird, *T. merula*, of a milk white colour, that was shot in a wild state. I once saw a rook mottled black and white, exactly like a magpie, among a great flock of others. I have seen a tame white mouse; and a whole nest of young mice were once brought to me, consisting of ten or twelve, which were either white or mottled, and I think few or none of them were entirely of the ordinary mouse colour. This I presume had been the progeny of a mouse probably pure white, with a mate of the usual colour. If among this nestling,

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there were a male and a female pure white, there is little room to doubt but a breed of white mice, might have been procreated, if these had been shut up together. I was at that time so much hurt by the ravages of mice, that I was glad to get them all destroyed, so that no experiment was made of it; I have since regretted it was not done; and this shows exactly what may be expected to be done among domestic animals, and what does actually happen among wild animals, in cases of this kind. Probably no marks of the white black bird, or of the pied rook, were preserved among the progeny, or they would be soon absorbed in the general mass.

Another circumstance that may occasion a diversity among domestic animals, which has not been much attended to, though individuals must have, on many occasions, remarked it is, that though the family likeness, if you please, or* the distinguishing peculiarity of the breed, will sometimes be totally wanting in *one* individual of the breed, yet there is a tendency to revert to it; and it will often happen that the progeny of that accidental* variety, will resemble the parent stock more than the immediate parent himself. A man, for example, who, from a casual individual deviation, bears no resemblance to his father, may have a child that is the exact picture of its grandfather. In like manner a horse, which has been casually black, though descended from a breed, the general colour of which is white or grey, may

* We call *accidental* such circumstances as we cannot account for in matters of this sort.

produce a grey or white foal, even from a black mare. Instances of this kind sometimes occur; but these are matters not worth pursuing farther at present.

The diversities that man may thus artificially produce in the animal creation, may be not unaptly compared to many of those produced among vegetables, by attentive observation and careful selection, nearly of the same kind. It often happens, that the leaves of a tree or plant, from the operation of some cause that eludes our search, become either wholly or in part blotched, or stained with stripes of white or yellow or red, in various ways. If plants having these peculiarities are multiplied, either by parting the roots, by cuttings, by buds, or by layers, as the nature of the plant admits, the peculiarities are often preserved, without variation, for any length of time; and thus a new variety is produced, which never would have propagated its kind so as to perpetuate it, but for the attention and care of the cultivator*. In this manner are our nurseries and gardens filled

* It frequently happens among plants, that a single branch or twig only is thus blotched in the parent stock, while all the rest of the plant retains its original colour; and it is well known that if the coloured branch, and that of the natural hue, be both separately propagated they each for the most part retain the colour and qualities of the parent branch from which they were taken.

The diversities in this respect are various. I have just now in my possession, a plant of the *scarlet* *Lychnis vulgò*, *LYCHNIS Chalcedonica*, obtained from seeds, a variety of a white colour. This if propagated by slips, preserves its variety; but at the present time it is in flower, and having several stems, one of these has showed itself of a red colour, though it is only a branch from a larger stem, all the other flowers of which are white.

with striped and blotched leaved plants, as our court yards are with poultry of various colours, which never are preserved, while they are in a wild state. Thus does man produce varieties both in the animal and vegetable kingdoms, that are different from those diversities that nature had originally formed; but these are of a lesser kind, and though differing in certain respects from the parent stock from which they sprang, they still retain the general habitudes and appearance of the parents, and may easily be recognised as their descendants.

In another manner man has it in his power to diversify the breeds of animals, (and of some vegetables) to suit the purpose he has in view. All the varieties of any one species of animal are seldom to be found naturally in one place: One kind prevails in one region of the world, and another kind in another district; and so of a third or fourth, or any indefinite number. Each of these possesses certain peculiar characteristic qualities, which may render one breed much more proper for one purpose than another is*. To select from all this diversity, that par-

* I here speak as a *practical* improver, without hesitation or doubt; for in whatever way the philosophical question about the *varieties* of domestic animals may be finally solved, there can be no doubt, but that the practical farmer may safely trust to each breed propagating its kind in preference to that of another. Let the philosopher argue as long as he pleases to convince him that all the varieties of horses are the same, and that therefore it is of no consequence to him what kind he breeds from, seeing culture, food, and care, have produced all the diversities; the plain farmer knows, that the man who wasts to expect to have a horse that would excel in the race, by breeding from a heavy Flanders mare and stallion, would be little better than a bedla-

ticular breed which possesses in the most eminent degree the qualities he wants, opens up to the attentive *economist* a wide range for observation and experiment.

But if all this were done, his progress does not stop here. He may find, after he has examined them all, that certain peculiarities which might be useful to him, are not to be found in the highest degree possible in any one of these. He may observe that if the carcase of one were mended in certain respects, by being blended with that of another, it would be better than either; and so of fleece, hardness &c. &c. so that by crossing one breed with another, a mongrel kind might be produced, that would be more beneficial to him than that of either of the parents. Thus may he mix and compound them as it were at pleasure; and in this way he may produce another diversity of breeds, that nature never would have produced without his intervention.

Thus does it appear that animals, if left to breed by themselves in a wild state, would naturally preserve the varieties distinct and separate from each other, so as seldom if ever to produce any new varieties, and that of course if there had been originally but one only of each species, the probability is that that one kind would never have deviated into a great

mite. Here therefore I wish to put philosophical subtleties, which may have a tendency on some occasions to confound the understanding, entirely out of the question, and refer to plain matters of fact. About *possibilities*, our limited knowledge forbids us to pronounce; here a *probability*, which may be as ten thousand to one, is, for every practical purpose, to be considered as a *certainty*.

diversity of kinds. And though after they come under the power of man, he may produce certain lesser variations, that may be deemed a kind of varieties; yet as these his artificial productions, are never any thing else than either small modifications of a particular breed, which still retains its general qualities distinct, or an evident compound of two kinds already known, we may in general conclude: that as certain breeds of sheep, we will say, which are placed at a great distance from each other, and distinguishable by very striking peculiarities, are to be found in situations where the hand of man can scarcely be supposed ever to have had a preceptible share in altering them by culture, there have been originally a considerable number of varieties of this useful species of animal, which were endowed with different qualities, instincts, powers, and propensities; and that it behoves us now to ascertain, by careful observation, and accurate experiment, the distinguishable peculiarities of each variety, if ever we hope to draw the utmost possible benefit from the rearing of it.

The practical inferences from the whole of this investigation then are: That there are to be found dispersed over this globe, many *varieties* of every species of useful domestic animal: that the particular distinguishing peculiarities of each cannot be known, until they shall have all been examined by persons of skill; and accurate comparative trials made, to ascertain all these peculiarities: we can never therefore say that we have reached nearly the ultimate perfection that this department in economics is naturally susceptible of, till this shall first have been done.

If this were once done, it would not be a matter of very great difficulty, to judge with a probable degree of certainty, of the means of producing a mongrel breed that should tend to augment the peculiar qualities that were wanted at the time*.

And if both these improvements were effected, the ultimate degree of perfection in any one respect can

* It has been often asserted with great positiveness, and is very generally believed, that an infertile breed of animals produced between two distinct species of animals, as the mule procreated between the horse and the ass, or the jumarre between the cattle tribe and the horse, possess qualities that render them much more valuable than either of the parents by themselves; certain qualities indeed that seem to be *sui generis*, and not merely a compound of those of the two parent animals. I pretend not to say that this is certain, but if it be, it may afford reason to believe that *mongrels*, produced between two varieties of the same species, may in some respects possess not only the compounded qualities resulting from a mixture of the two, but some other peculiarities superadded, that may render them still more serviceable to man.

In confirmation of this opinion, I have, since the above was written, met with the following remark, in a book entitled a general view of the agriculture of the county of Middlesex, drawn up by Thomas Baird, for the consideration of the board of agriculture and internal improvement." Speaking of the improvements by the celebrated Mr John Hunter at Earls court, in the parish of Kinsington, he says p. 42.

"This gentleman has at present a very beautiful little cow from a bufaloe and an Alderny cow. This animal is in some measure kept for her beauty: and what adds to it, *she is always plump and fat, whether in summer or winter, and upon much less food than would be sufficient to support a beast of the same size of the ordinary breed.* I do not find that she exceeds in quantity of milk, but the quality is very good, *and it is certain she can be fattened at much less expence than an ordinary cow of the same size.*"

If this should be a general rule, and not a particular exception to it, it would be a very beneficial improvement indeed. Farther experiments must ascertain this point.

only be attained by a continued careful and uninterrupted attention to the individuals of the breeding stock, that with a distinguishing eye every valuable peculiarity which accidentally arises, may be instantly siezed and perpetuated, and every hurtful singularity, be carefully banished from the breeding flock: Among the females this is of great use; but among the males, the importance of it is proportionally greater: for a female can only rear one, or at most two young in a season, so that the flock is either benefited or hurt to that amount by her progeny; but above an hundred may in some cases spring from a single male, and of course the flock will either be deteriorated or improved in the same ratio, by a judicious choice of the male or the reverse.*

* No attempt that I know of has ever been made *in practice* to obtain the improvements that might be gained under the two first heads, unless the trials now making by the society for improving British wool; and those made by some enterprising individuals, as Warren Hastings Esq, Sir Joseph Banks, Mr John Hunter, Thomas Johnes Esq, M. P. and a few others, who have of late imported from distant regions some valuable domestic animals not hitherto known in this country, not for the purpose of being led about as a show, to amuse an idle curiosity, but for the purpose of propagating their breed, and thus giving room for comparative experiments between these and other animals of the same kind; may be so called; and the alterations that have been made by importing horses into England, and breeding from them, which give ample encouragement to follow a similar plan for improving other breeds of domestic animals.

With regard to the last mode of improvement, that by selection only of the best individuals of the same kind, and breeding from these, the practice of Mr Bakewell, all of whose experiments are reducible to this class, abundantly shows the amazing lengths to which improvements may be carried by this kind of attention continued for a long time. This man, whose name will long be mentioned with respect among agricultural improvers, raised his flock by this means

ON THE MOST STRIKING AND CURIOUS PHENOMENA
OF NATURAL HISTORY. BY ARCTICUS.*By Goethe*
Continued from p. 201.*Botany*

Is the other subject I proposed as a source of amusement to your readers ; and in fact, the order, arrangement and laws of the vegetable, are not less admirable than those of the animal, kingdom. Here the wonder and astonishment of man is equally raised, on seeing something like instinct, governing the movement of plants, which have their regular hours of sleeping and waking, like animated beings, with a certain degree of sensibility, and even predilection for particular objects, positions &c. How are we astonished likewise at the wonderful provision made for the *dispersion of seeds*, when we see that to

alone in the course of a few years to such a degree of superiority above others, that spirited farmers in his neighbourhood seeing the benefits that would accrue to them from possessing a superior breed thus improved, as early as possible, hired the use of some of his rams for one season only, at great prices. I have been credibly informed that for one particular ram has been drawn at the rate of ONE THOUSAND POUNDS STERLING, in one season. Foreigners will, from hence, with astonishment perceive the energy which the hope of gain inspires in a free nation, where personal property is entirely secured by the mild protection of the law impartially administered. This ought to be considered as a lecture in political economy of infinite importance. "He that hath ears to hear let him hear," that his understanding may be enlightened !

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138 genera something like wings are given, to facilitate their being carried by the winds to distant parts. The seeds of 29 more are darted to a great distance from elastic seed vessels. 50 genera which require dung for their cultivation, are furnished with little hooks by which they adhere to the coats of animals, and are carried to their place of abode, where they find the required soil. 193 genera are planted by beasts and birds, often passing through them with little detriment to their vegetating powers, particularly the berry and stone fruit kinds; even man himself, plants some of the last, in a rich soil, independent of his labours in the field or garden.

It is in this manner that fresh dung will fill the cleanest ground with plants, which possibly had just been rooted out with much labour, and it is likewise thus, that *oats* will be sown in a field of *rye* by a flight of larks, to confirm in appearance the short lived ridiculous hypothesis of the transmutation of grain, which has had its supporters like every other reverie of the human brain.

Other seeds, like those of a species of century, are covered with erect bristles, and thereby have a sort of creeping motion, insomuch that no art can confine them in the hand, sleeve, or bosom.

The seeds of the *equisetum* or fern, present a most curious phenomenon when viewed through a microscope on a piece of paper, as they are seen to leap over minute obstacles, so as to be taken for cheese mites, by those unacquainted with the curious fact. Nothing but the walls of a barn can pre-

vent the escape of the bearded or hygrometer oat, which twists itself out of the glume, and makes off, to the great ease of the Dalcarean peasant, its great cultivator, who is spared the trouble of threshing it; but he must take care to shut the barn door, or his oats may stray to that of his neighbour.

We see the very minute seeds of 14 genera of *mosses*, *fungi*, *byssus*, and *mucor*, which float in the air like atoms, carried by the winds to all kind of situations, even the tops of walls, houses &c. to take possession however only of such spots as are unoccupied, and which probably would even have remained barren, had not the lowly grovellers, which Linnæus calls the *labourers* of the vegetable kingdom, prepared the ground for plants of a superior rank, protecting and watering them at the same time, during their tender infancy; nay even the vegetable *nobles*, the proud trees of the forest, owe similar obligations in their tender years, to these same protecting and fostering plants, which inattentive man often treats with contempt, and regards as a nuisance, with the no less useful insects and reptiles.

Nature employs still other means for the necessary dispersion of seeds; as rivers transport them from one province to another, whilst the sea wafts them from their native, to foreign shores. Of the existence of both these modes of conveyance, the indefatigable Linnæus, was convinced by his own accurate observations. He found for example many Alpine plants in Lapland, carried and planted by rivers thirty-six miles distant from their natural place of

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growth, and some foreign plants, as the German century, and the veronica maritima, brought and planted by the sea on the shores of Sweden. Linnæus brings likewise some facts in proof of his general doctrine of the dispersion of seeds by the winds; viz that the Canadian erigiron or flea bane, was dispersed from the botanic garden of Paris over all Europe, the antirrhinum minus, or lesser toad flax of Bauhin, from that of Upsal over the whole province, as were the datura or thorn apple, the cotula or may weed, and the American gnaphalium or cudweed.

But nature has made as curious, wise, and effectual arrangements, for the *preservation*, as for the dispersion of seeds. A few of these we shall likewise just hint at as a subject of admiration and wonder.

Eighty-six genera of plants, whose situation, on the bare sea-shore, exposes their seeds to become the prey of fishes and birds, the almighty has hid from them in seed vessels so exactly resembling *shells*, that they escape notice and destruction, being confounded with the millions of real shells scattered upon the shore. As an example of this curious fact, the seed vessels of the medicago or medick, the salicornia or marsh samphire, and the salsola or glass wort, resemble the cockle so exactly, that they pass unnoticed with that shell.

Other means of *preservation* comes from the faculty given to some plants of hiding their seeds in the ground, such as the subterraneous trefoil and lathyrus, with the arachis or ground nut &c. whilst the seeds of others are preserved a most astonishing

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time in the earth, without losing their vegetating powers; examples of this fact we see in the thistle, and the lobellia or cardinal flower, which have been known to remain in the ground twenty years without injury, and the hypecoon forty, whilst the seeds of the melon, of casia, and of sensitive plant, retain their vegetating powers for forty or fifty years.

In short it would be endless to point out the wonderful ways that providence takes *to preserve from extinction* every species of plant, as even the very animals are made subservient to this great end; as those who feed on fruits and seeds, hide them in the ground, where they often take root by the negligence, forgetfulness, or death of the owners. Thus the squirrel, the mouse, the jay, &c. plant nuts; and many insects plant corn, and other seeds.

I shall now finish my second letter with a short note on the sleep of plants.

The vigil and repose of plants, one of the most curious subjects in natural history, merits some slight notice here, qualities possessed in a most eminent degree, by what have been called the *solar plants*; more particularly by that subdivision of them named *Equinoxial*, which observe more regular hours, and are less affected by the state of the atmosphere, than either the tropical, or meteorical, the other two subdivisions.

The great Linnæus, found the hours of opening and shutting of the equinoxial plants so exact, that he composed a sort of garden clock from them, suf-

246 *a vegetable clock and barometer.* Oct: 16:
 ficiently accurate for common purposes, which any
 of your readers may possess, by setting the twelve
 following plants in a row in the order here set down,
 all of which are either indigenous or naturalized in
 Great Britain; and seven of them grow wild in
 Scotland, which I have distinguished by the letter
 (S.) before the hour indicated in the margin.—If
 the sketches given in these two letters excite your
 correspondents to treat the subjects hinted at, it will
 give pleasure to

Imp. corps of N. bl
 Cadets in St. Pete sburg. }
 December, 1792.

ARCTICUS.

A VEGETABLE GARDEN CLOCK WITH TWO VEGETABLE BAROMETERS.

Hours of opening or shutting As there are but ten of the Equinoxial plants which *open* at stated hours, the two first on the following list, are taken from those which *shut* at a given hour.

Shut at	<i>English Names.</i>	<i>Linnean Names.</i>
1	Proliferous pink.	<i>Dianthus proliifer.</i>
2	Marsh sow thistle.	<i>Sonchus palustris.</i>
Open at		
S. 3	Yellow goats beard.	<i>Tragapogon pratense.</i>
S. 4	Yellow devils bit.	<i>Leontodon autumnale.</i>
S. 5	Common sow thistle.	<i>Sonchus oleraceus.</i>
S. 6	Spotted hawk weed.	<i>Hypochæris maculata.</i>
	Narrow leafed bushy ditto.	<i>Hieracium umbellatum.</i>
S. 7	Broad leafed ditto.	<i>Hieracium sabaudum.</i>
S. 8	Narrow leafed ditto.	<i>Hieracium auricula.</i>
S. 9	Smooth ditto.	<i>Hypochæris glabra.</i>
	Carolina mallow.	<i>Malva Caroliniana.</i>

open at	<i>English Names.</i>	<i>Linnaean Names.</i>
S. 10	Garden lettuce.	<i>Lactuca sativa.</i>
11	[Alpine bastard hawk weed.	<i>Crepis alpina.</i>
12	Blue flowered alpine.	<i>Sonchus alpinus.</i>

To this curious vegetable time piece, a couple of vegetable barometers may be added, which act upon similar principles, and are likewise sufficiently accurate for the gardener and farmer. The first barometer is the African mary-gold, or *CALENDULA pluvialis*.

If the African mary-gold opens not its flowers in the morning about seven o'clock, you are sure to have rain that day, except it is to be accompanied with thunder.

The second barometer is the Siberian sow thistle, or *SONCHUS Sibericus*.

If the flowers of the Siberian thistle keep open all night, you are sure of rain next day.

TWO CURIOUS FACTS RESPECTING NATURAL HISTORY.

SIR. *To the Editor of the Bee.*

YOUR correspondent M. has mentioned a pretty curious phenomenon, in vol. 13 p. 286 of the Bee, which you have explained in the most satisfactory manner. I will beg leave to add a similar fact, to which, though I had it from the most undoubted authority, some years ago, I could not give the full assent of my mind, till I read the above paper. It will serve, at least, to corroborate your opinion.

A knife found in the heart of a growing tree.

Two men in Ross-shire being employed, sawing some large fir trees, observed a long black streak in one of the planks, pretty near the center, where,

on examining into the cause, they found, to their no small surprise, a large *knife* inclosed, of a kind very much used in this country of old, which could not be accounted for, but in the manner you mention. It will no doubt, be urged as an objection to the truth of this, that, as iron is of a corrosive nature, the knife would have been consumed with rust, during the very long time it must have lain there; it was however, far from that, though a good deal rusted. I suppose it would have continued to rust, till the tree closed about it so as to exclude the air, but afterwards, that it would not consume any more. This however, is but a conjecture.

A much more wonderful fact than the above (to me at least) fell under my own observation a few days ago, which I would willingly see inserted in the Bee, if you thought it might serve any good purpose; or, if there is any thing new to you in seeing

Muscles in the heart of solid stone.

A gentleman in one of the most northern parishes in this county having occasion to burn some lime, was carrying the *lime* stone from an adjacent island, in the sea, below flood mark. Upon breaking the stones, to prepare them for the kiln, they were found to contain several living *muscles*, some of them about the size of French beans. I was on the spot, saw the phenomenon, but could not explain it. I need not mention the queries that would occur to a superficial naturalist, like myself, upon seeing the above. I have only further to add, that every muscle, at whatever distance it was from the sea, had a communication with it, by a very small hole quite through the stone. I am, Sir,

Th. R.

Sutherland, May, 93.

POETRY.

THOUGHTS SUGGESTED BY READING,
LINES ADDED BY MR HASTINGS TO MUKLE'S LUSIAD.

For the Bee.

IN the tenth book of the *Lusiad* of Camoens, the goddess predicts to Gama the future conquest of the Portuguese in India. After detailing the heroic actions of Pacheco, she laments his fate in the following passage, to which Mr Hastings, continuing the predictions to his own times, added the succeeding lines, which are distinguished by inverted commas. The additional thoughts are marked with single commas.

The lofty song, for palenefs o'er her spread,
The nymph suspends, and bows the languid head;
Her faltering words are breath'd in plaintive sighs.
Ah! Belisarius! injured chief, she cries,
Ah! wipe thy tears;—in war thy rival see,
Godlike Pacheco falls despoiled like, thee;
In him, in thee, dishonoured virtue bleeds,
And valour weeps to view her fairest deeds:
Weeps o'er Pacheco where forelorn he lies,
Deep in the dungeon's gloom, and friendless dies.

“ Yet shrink not, gallant Lusian, nor repine
“ That man's eternal destiny is thine!
“ Where'er success th' advent'rous chief befriends,
“ Fell malice on his parting step attends;
“ On Britain's candidates for fame await,
“ As now on thee, the stern decrees of fate.
“ Thus are ambition's fondest hopes o'erreach'd;
“ One dies imprison'd,—and one lives impeach'd.”

‘ And, let ambition's hopes be thus repaid,
‘ The kind philanthropist indignant said.
‘ Ambition! cursed pest of human kind,
‘ Whose cruel vot'ries, impotent and blind,
‘ Still hope, through guilt, tranquillity to gain;
‘ But in its stead find only grief and pain.
‘ Vainly they try their guilty heads to hide
‘ Amid the dazzling glare of pomp and pride;
‘ Stern nature still asserts her sov'reign sway,
‘ Nor dare they her dread pow'r to disobey.

"Death hath murder'd sleep," they cry,
 ' With frantic gesture, glaring eye,
 ' As starting from their troubled couch they rise—
 " See ! see ! the struggling innocent !—it dies !"
 ' The mother who till now hung o'er her child
 ' With anxious hope, and trembling fear,
 ' Now rolls her eye with chilling horror wild,
 ' And marks the horrid scene—without a tear
 ' Her husband's mangled corpse pollutes the plain
 ' Which by his toil was fertiliz'd in vain.
 ' Her all is gone,
 ' And she, poor helpless innocent is left alone.
 ' Incapable of thought, a while she stands,
 ' With drooping head and folded hands,
 ' Then starting from her trance, she rapid flies,
 ' And plunging in the deep indignant dies.
 ' If such the scenes which recollection brings
 ' Dearly is bought the pomp and wealth of kings !"
 ' And though ambition's mignons this may GLORY call
 ' Shall JUSTICE sheath her sword, nor let it on the dazzling culprit fall.'

TIMOTHY HAIRBRAIN.

THE DRUM.

I HATE that drum's discordant sound,
 Parading round, and round, and round ;
 To thoughtless youth it pleasure yields,
 And lures from cities and from fields,
 To sell their liberty for charms
 Of tawdry lace and glittering arms ;
 And when ambition's voice commands,
 To march, and fight, and fall in foreign lands.

I hate that drum's discordant sound,
 Parading round, and round, and round.
 To me it talks of ravag'd plains,
 And burning towns, and ruin'd swains,
 And mangled limbs, and dying groans,
 And widow's tears and orphan's moans ;
 And all that misery's hand bestows
 To fill the catalogue of human woes.

THE WAY TO GROW RICH.

Two tradesmen, in converse, were striving to learn,
 What means to make use of great riches to earn ;
 A friend who sat near them advis'd with a smile,
 " Live on half of your incomes, and live a long while."

LITERARY OLLA. No. x.

*For the Bée.**Gray the Poet,—A dialogue concerning Youth.**Continued from p. 181.*

Walpole. Your principles, gentlemen, are just, and your reflections excellent; but give me leave to say, that your plans of education are better adapted to people of fortune and eminence, than to the public at large.

Much has been talked and written concerning a code of education; but this would be incompatible with a free government, and would require in every different case, a different mode of application to the situation, capacity, and genius of the subject. By what means then do ye think it possible to establish and diffuse among the people, modes of education productive of useful knowledge and of virtue?

Gray. My plan is not above the reach of people of the middle station and fortune; and were it once established as the best for them, it would soon be adopted in the schools for the people at large. Europe, and particularly our country, swarms with societies for the encouragement and improvement of sciences, arts, manufactures, and every thing that can either amuse or enrich the public; but I never heard of a society for the improvement of this most important of all public works, the formation of good and useful citizens.

A society of this nature once judiciously formed, would lead to thousands of the same nature, and to the general adoption of a system for the improvement of the human mind, in knowledge and virtue, without entrenching on the freedom of families in the management of their children.

It hath always been my opinion, that, next to a well poised and well administered government, a virtuous institution of youth, is the most effectual method of giving efficacy to the laws, and prosperity to the state.

Indeed, I might well have given it the first place, if I had not made the art of government so much my study, as to foresee the practicability of a system of government being arranged so as to produce the effect desired, without the interposition of the legislative power, or the invasion of the sacred right of domestic authority.

The formation of a brave, well organised, and good citizen, ought to begin indeed from his first origin; for it is impossible that the spawn of enervated luxury can grow into any thing that can be fit for great occasions. The mind cannot act in a feeble body for the great and energetic purposes of society. Nerves, but not the *nerves* of modern tone, are supereminently required, and you must make your pupil a *man*, before you can think of making him good or great.

The next step towards the preparation of the man of my system, is the exposure of his body to the greatest possible number of harmless excitements, and his mind, through that only medium, to the greatest possible number of elementary impressions, whereby the first is strengthened, and the latter informed experimentally with nature and sentiment. I would have my pupil nursed by a robust, sensible, talkative mother, if he has one, and if not, by a nurse chosen for such qualities. He ought to walk without help: if he is properly trained, in his earliest infancy, and, by exposure to various little accidents, he will gather acquaintance with all the objects that are about him, be able to keep himself out of the way of mischief, and to help himself on a great many little occasions.

It is the want of institution which occasions the despicable helplessness of our modern noblesse. Accustomed from the cradle to do every thing by proxy, they assume this privilege of peerage throughout the whole of their existence ; they cannot buckle their own shoes, shave their beards, put on their cloaths, act in their own business, keep their own accounts, pay their own debts, or even be at the pains to continue their own families : All is to be done by proxy, all through the media of valets, friseurs, gentlemen of the chamber, attornies, chaplains, or stout Irishmen.

Children educated in crowded hospitals, where, from their number, and the mercenary unconcernedness of their attendants, they are not excited by various objects and events, or by the novelty and variety of conversation, are in general powerless, helpless, and dull in their conceptions.

The faculties of the mind, as well as of the body, become paralytic by disuse. The ear is provided with muscles of erection, and I have known individuals who could prick up their ears like an ass ; but almost all of us have lost this faculty by early ligature, or by disuse.

My next maxim, relating to education, is, that it should be suited to the climate, government, and religion of the country, and to the probable situation of the individual in that country.

After the years of infancy, therefore, my pupil is gradually formed by his nurture to the general scope of his future life ; without permitting, however, any extraordinary marks of genius to escape unnoticed, whereby his parents or guardians may be enabled to regulate the quantity and quality of his intellectual food.

If he is the child of a great nobleman, and solitary in the family, let his father generously take the charge of

two or three children of his friends or neighbours, of the same age, and put them under the tuition of a gentleman fit at once to perform the part of a father, a friend, and preceptor; for it is with concern that I am obliged to remark, that men of our condition, who have the gifts of fortune, and have not been bred, like us, in the school of adversity, have seldom any thing but wealth to fit them for those important functions.

My pupils, thus situated, are to appear constantly at the family table, or in the public rooms at meals. They are to be encouraged in the sharpest and most critical attention to the virtues, oddities, and awkwardnesses of each other, and to excite and improve each other by innocent and gay exercises of this sort, so that their capacities may be continually strengthened: For wit, humour, and sterling good sense, consist in little more than a conception, more or less rapid, of the minute and characteristic relations of things, expressed with more or less gaiety, contrast, velocity, or correctness. As my pupils advanced, I would have them sent to public schools, but under the same eye and tuition, and that private should be judiciously mixed with public education, so as to do no more than to hold up as it were the chins of my pupils till their feet touched the ground.

I would have them taught to labour by themselves; I would have them inspired by the love of virtuous fame and the admiration of illustrious characters.

I would rather see the tears standing in their eyes, when they read or recited the stories of the death of Brutus, Cato, Helvidius Priscus, Arulenus Rusticus, Thrasea Pætus, and of Arria, than melting with the fictitious and enervating sorrow of a love novel, or gaping at the ridiculous immensity of a fairy tale. I would have them trained to an uncontaminated appetite for truth, exercis-

ing itself in the careful collection of intricate but useful information, and to fear nothing so much as to be outdone by their class fellows.

This mode of education I would continue, accompanying it with the manly exercises of wrestling and the chace, until their bodies and their minds were fully invigorated.

They should not leave the schools till fifteen, nor the colleges until twenty-one; and four years more I would allot for the study of politics, the belles lettres, beaux arts, and to foreign travel.

To the present mode of education may be imputed the frivolity and indecency of our women, and the want of learning and public spirit among our men.

Our women are educated in general more upon the plan of governesses, opera girls, or fortune hunters, than of wives and mothers. They are taught, with, or without genius or fortune, to speak a language for which they have little or no use in this country, and which leads to the expensive fopperies *only* of a great and respectable nation, whom we venture to call perfidious, because it wishes to oppose the the tyranny of a nation that would usurp the freedom not only of her own distant subjects, but of the nations of Europe and of Asia.

They are taught, with or without genius, to play on musical instruments, to sing, and to dance a minuet, which their countrymen in general have either not abilities or taste enough to dance with them.

All these accomplishments are attempted to be taught within the compass of three or four years; and the plain girl, with five hundred pounds fortune, is educated in the same manner with the beauty who has five thousand.

Useful needle work, and the occupations of the lovely daughters of king Alcinous, with the economy of a table, the history of their country, their father and mother's family, and those illustrious women who have adorned their sex, and blest their families with examples worthy of imitation, are considered only as secondary objects.

The education of our men is quite of a piece with that of our women; all the pursuits of a wonderful Chrichton are crowded into the compass of a few years, during which time there is little or no discipline to correct the natural sloth and idleness of youth; neither are they warned against the effeminate practices of young men, at the critical age of puberty, which exhaust the vigour of mankind, and wither the stems of families.

They are taught to consider money, acquired by any profession, however mean or grovelling, nay even by gaming, by rapine, fraud, and murder, as the only roads to distinction, in a country become altogether venal, and that venality even sanctified by the monstrous nature of the constitution of the nation itself.

From schools and colleges, the young man goes abroad, or fixes in a profession. If he goes abroad raw and unprincipled, he goes not like the wise Ulysses, to study the manners and laws of nations, more polished than his own, but the opera girls, and fopperies and fashions of other countries, which have the same tendency in all ages, and in all countries.

If he fixes in a profession, he carries along with him the idleness and dissipation of our seminaries of learning. He scorns to labour a lifetime for an honest progressive acquisition of profit, but boldly ventures to cast the fortune of his lifetime on a single dye. Indeed, who will labour for a lifetime, when he thinks he can gain it in half an hour.

He sees also, that, in this country, the acquisition of a fortune will sanctify, or at least conceal, every villany, and that it matters not much whether four thousand pounds a year are acquired as a reward of the virtues of a Chatham, or for starving a million of Gentoos on the other side of the Ganges.

LETTER FROM MR FRASER OF LOVAT, RESPECTING SALT
DUTIES.

If gentlemen of family and fortune were to turn their attention to things of equal importance with that which forms the subject of the following letter, we should soon feel the beneficial effects which would result from it; but idleness is not the best school for reflection, nor wealth and power the most likely means of increasing wisdom or knowledge. It is not therefore surprising that matters of this sort should often elude the notice of men of rank; nor is it to be wondered at that the efforts of men who move in an inferior rank to introduce these to the notice of the public, should sometimes be overlooked, seeing it often happens that designing men contrive to mislead those of higher rank, under specious pretexts of public spirit, the fallacy of whose reasoning they are not able to detect. It is very doubtful if more harm to the people has not originated in plans suggested by self interest, though pretending to aim at nothing else than the public good, than from all other sources put together; and as this has been frequently remarked, it has cooled the zeal with which men in power listen to such proposals. From these considerations, the editor of this humble miscellany, who has frequently exerted his feeble efforts to turn the attention of the public to this important subject, is by no means either hurt or surprised at the little effect it has produced; (for small is the number who know him so well as to be able to perceive that his personal interest can in no respect be affected by it;) but he is so firmly convinced of the benefits that would result from an elucidation of this subject that he shall omit no proper opportunity of bringing it into view. On this principle he thinks the following letter deserves to be well considered. In the following number he proposes to submit to the public a memorial on the same subject originating in a respec-

table source, which will more clearly explain some circumstances that are only hinted at here, that are very little known by the public.

TO THE FREEHOLDERS OF THE COUNTY OF INVERNESS.

" I HAVE the honour to transmit the inclosed, which as convenor you will please to lay before the shire at the first or Michaelmas head court, as it may throw some light on a subject which deeply interests the well-being and prosperity of Scotland; and as measures of public utility should be coolly deliberated, they require steadiness and zeal in their pursuit.

" I had the honour to address the shire on the subject of the coasting coal duties—I have now to solicit your attention to the consideration of those on salt; so as to procure, through the solicitation of your member in parliament, or other legal mode, such an arrangement or commutation of the duties on salt, as may enable meat salted or smoked, and fish cured wet or dry, on the coasts of the kingdom, to find their way to the home market of our cities and manufacturing towns, cured in the wholesomest and best manner, for the use of the poorer as well as the richer inhabitants.

" Such an arrangement duly obtained will further open that which has hitherto been locked up, no matter by what oversight, and will complete the circulation which must arise from the coasting commerce of this kingdom—Coal and lime will go north, and salted and cured meats and fish come south in return; the numbers of seamen will be increased, fisheries and cattle-raising promoted.

" It can hardly be too often inculcated, that the coasting trade is the first stage in the nursery for forming of seamen. Old seamen naturally become fishermen; and their children, taught by example, think of getting their bread

on the water: It is not so easy to lead ploughmen or herdsmen to become seamen or fishermen.

"I have a few words more to mention on the subject of salt. At Learne, in Ireland, I have seen large cubic chrystalized salt, made there by means of Scots capital, Scots workmen, with English rock salt, and as much Irish sea water as would dissolve that rock salt. This at present would be an illegal transaction in Scotland, yet, if made legal, would not only open the coasting trade and fisheries, but bring food cured in the wholesomest and best manner to a home market, and be the means of relieving the effects of season and climate in a northern latitude pretty generally, and, in times like these, the distresses of the grazier in the more northern parts, and the operative mechanics in the southern; for when there is no demand for cattle, and they are fat, they may be salted and cured various ways, which with their hides and tallow may be sent to market. And in times of stagnation and distress of manufacture, the operative people, by means of salted meat and fish, with their vegetables, will do very well. In times of prosperity they will be enabled to bring their goods to market on easier terms:

"The Canadian is permitted to freeze what he cannot support with winter provender, and that way carries it to market. Salt of a proper quality is requisite to do the same thing in this climate; and as the law stands at present, any British subject may supply the French general Santerre, but may not relieve the necessity of the poorer inhabitants of Leith or Edinburgh on the east coast, or the operative manufacturers of Glasgow or Paisley on the west coast of this kingdom.

(Signed) A. Fraser, Lovat."

SIR,

To the Editor of the Bee.

A copy of the following letter was in the possession of a deceased friend of mine. I believe it is not in any publication of the late king of Prussia's works; but if you think it worthy of a place in your Bee, it is much at your service. I am Sir, with great respect, yours &c.

J. F.

Copy of a letter from the king of Prussia to Voltaire.—1760.

I have received with pleasure two letters from you at one time. Prithce confess, has not my large packet of poetry appeared ridiculous to you? I fancy myself like Thersites, who attempts to compete with Achilles. I hope in your next to have a criticism upon what I have written, as you used formerly to let me have when I was a poor private inhabitant at Rheinsberg; where the unfortunate Keiserling, whom I regret, and shall ever regret, gave you his tribute of praise. But Voltaire is become a courtier, and he can now part with nothing but praise, and truly this may be the least dangerous trade of the two. Think not however, that my poetical self-sufficiency can be offended with your corrections; I have not the folly to think that a German is capable of shining in French poetry. Be so kind then as not to spare me, I know it is very possible to write better than I have done; but then I should be glad to be told how.

Are you not of my opinion, that writing verse well is a good introduction to writing prose well? will not this render the style more energetic, particularly if the writer is on his guard not to load his prose with epithets, circumlocutions, or too poetical metaphors.

1793. *Letter from the king of Prussia to Voltaire.* 261

I am enamoured with philosophy and verse. When I speak of philosophy, I mean neither geometry nor metaphysics ; the former, though sublime, is not made for a man who is to mix with society. I leave this to some dreaming Englishman ; let him govern the heavens as he will, I am contented with the planet which I inhabit. As for metaphysics they are as you have justly termed them a bladder filled with wind. Every journey through these regions exposes the traveller either to the precipice or the abyss ; and I am persuaded that nature has not formed us to guess at her secrets, but rather to follow implicitly the plan she proposes. Let us draw all the advantages from life that it is capable of affording, and not trouble our heads, whether we are acted upon by superior agents, or directed by our own free will. If however I may venture to hazard my sentiments upon this subject, it appears to me, that our passions and circumstances ever determine us. If you go still higher, I confess my ignorance. I well know that by my will I am drawn to write verses, whether good or bad ; but I am ignorant whether there may not be some external compulsion in the case. If it be so, I am displeased that this compulsion does not make them more agreeable.

Don't be surprised at my ode upon war : these are, I assure you, my sentiments : You must distinguish the statesman from the philosopher ; and you ought to know that we may make war from reason ; may be politicians from duty, and philosophers from inclination. Men are never placed in this world according to their choice. From hence it appears, that there are so many bad cobblers, bad priests, bad statesmen, and bad monarchs in the world. Yours &c. &c.

FREDERICK.

INDEX INDICATORIOUS.

J. A.
Continued from p. 192.

W. M. favoured the Editor long ago with some imitations of the style and manner of writing adopted by the translators of the English Bible, which he did not think would prove acceptable to many of his readers. Along with this came some detached remarks, of which the following is a specimen.

"In order to understand the beauties of an author, it is necessary to be in a situation somewhat like to that in which he was, and impressed with ideas somewhat similar to those which he had when he wrote. If this be admitted, there is not a proof more demonstrative of the depravity of those men's minds who slight the bible.

"Happiness and misery are pretty equally blended together in human life: there is as much of the former as may reconcile us to life, and as much of the latter as may preserve us from too much attachment to it.

"Those men who are somewhat callous in their feelings, enjoy life with an equanimity of mind which renders it perhaps as agreeable to them as it is to others of more acute sensibility; for though they may not be susceptible of so much pleasure from many small incidents that daily occur, they are equally invulnerable by those of an unpleasant kind.

"Perhaps the pleasures of manhood and youth are in like manner nearly equally balanced. In youth, while the passions are all alive, the imagination lively, and the sensations acute, the happiness that is sometimes experienced is exquisite; but the miseries that are suffered before it has learnt to combat, far less to conquer the ills of life, are equally acute. In manhood the happiness is of a more temperate and rational kind, arising from the success of plans digested with care, the fidelity of persons whose characters have been investigated with a cautious circumspection, and the consciousness of obtaining the good will of those who merit esteem; but the very caution that guards against the exquisite miseries of youth, allays in like manner the rapturous sensations of pleasure of which it was so extremely susceptible."

Aristides complains of the partiality that some masters show to one apprentice in comparison of another, with regard to the instructing them in their calling. "It is well known, he says, that it is in e-

Very master's power to give what kinds of work he pleases, to his servants in trade; of consequence his opportunity to oppress some and raise up others, who may have cringed in order to curry favour, is great: and I am sorry to add, this power, by the vain or the wicked master, is often abused." He then uses many moral arguments to dissuade them from following such a practise. But where a man is so wicked as deliberately to adopt such an iniquitous practice, arguments drawn from the beauty of moral rectitude will probably be little regarded. I would therefore add that few things can more directly tend to hurt the master's own interest. An unjust conduct is soon observed, and never fails to procure the ill will of the injured person, and the contempt alike of him and the person who profits by the partiality; none of them, therefore can ever have his interest at heart, and the difference that is between the forced services of one who secretly despises his master, and the cordial alacrity of one who esteems him, is infinite.

There is another evil however that too often is experienced by apprentices respecting masters, that this correspondent has totally overlooked. It is the carelessness with which the masters too often instruct their apprentices in their respective vocations, and even the care with which some of them *conceal* the most important secrets of their business from their apprentices, from a jealousy that they may come to rival themselves in business. This is such a direct breach of one of the most sacred confidential compacts, as to deserve the severest punishment of the law wherever it can be proved; for it is a species of robbery committed upon a helpless individual *under trust*; and is of a nature infinitely more atrocious than that of robbing on the highway. This is an evil which is now become very common, especially in businesses where high apprentice fees are paid, that it well deserves to be adverted to.

The following effusion, called a reveree of a *ci-devant*, (that is gentle English reader, a late) country *domine*, (I follow the text,) is given verbatim.

"Latin is, on all hands, considered as the handmaid of science in the three liberal professions. It has the sanction of antiquity on its side; and it still continues to be the favourite language of the learned in Europe. It possesses a beauty and an energy peculiar to itself. With irresistible force it strikes the mind, and leaves impressions which the hand of time cannot efface. At the court of Augustus, the patron of learned merit, Latin was both spoken and written

with an ease and elegance which no language either antient or modern (Qu. is the writer acquainted with all these) ever attained. The few authors of the Augustan age, (an æra sacred to fine writing,) who have survived the wreck of ages, and who are thoroughly refined in the furnace of time, bear ample testimony to this assertion. The writings of Virgil, Horace, Cicero, and Livy, are models which we can neither excel nor equal. They are monuments of antient literature, with which fortune has honoured the labours of industry, of taste, and of genius; and which, in her goodness, she has deigned to transmit to us as objects worthy of our praise and admiration.

TO CORRESPONDENTS.

The second favour of *Criticus* is received: As are also the two communications by *Mica*, and the communications by *Aristides*—all of which shall be duly attended to.

The critique by *Truth Lover* is too severe,—but with a little softening shall have a place.

A *Reader*, if at all inserted, must find a place in the *Index Indicatus*.

The remarks by *Mica* shall appear when a corner can be spared which will suit them.

If the performance signed *Pemates*, be intended for irony, it is not sufficiently pointed to answer the purpose.—If it be serious, it is too absurd for publication.

The printed communication, signed *Eustache de St Pierre de la Val*, does not possess so much originality as would be required to intitle it to a place as a republication.

The additional remarks by *A Rider* are received, and shall appear with the first conveniency.

The favour by *Extractor* should have been sooner acknowledged,—but it was overlooked, having slipped unobserved between the folds of another paper!

A Correction.

The Editor is much obliged to *R. I.* for correcting an error respecting the little fish which was figured, Bee, vol. 15. p. 153. which is there said to be a non-descrip,—though this obliging correspondent says it has been described by Gmelin, in his excellent edition of the works of Linnæus, under the name of *Perca Polymna*, and has been figured by *Blosch*, Tab. 325, and *Klein*, Tab. 2. F. 8.—As the Editor is no professed naturalist, and has no opportunity of consulting the best books on that subject, he does not pretend to guard against mistakes of this kind, as he must, in uncommon cases, rely upon the information of others. But where he is misled at any time, he will always be ready to correct his mistakes. Indeed it is no part of his plan to teach natural history scientifically,—though it be entirely compatible with it to throw in slight notices on this subject occasionally, that may have a tendency to excite the attention in a certain degree to this important branch of science.

THE BEE,

OR

LITERARY WEEKLY INTELLIGENCER,

FOR

WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 23. 1793.

ORATION

TO THE MEMORY OF PETER THE GREAT, DELIVERED
BEFORE THE ACADEMY OF SCIENCES AT ST PETERS-
BURGH, ON THE 26 OF APRIL 1755, THE ANNIVERSA-
RY OF THE CORONATION OF THE EMPRESS ELIZA-
BETH, BY MICHAEL LOMONOSSOFF.

Translated from the Russian language,

J. Brown
For the Bee.

Though no species of composition is so disgusting as orations consist-
ing of fulsome panegyric on living princes, in swola and hyperbo-
lical language; yet when truth forms the basis of such orations,
under the influence of genius guided by firm rectitude of mind, it
may perhaps be accounted the most interesting and agreeable mode
of conveying historical information in regard to important transac-
tions. In this light the following oration may be deemed a valu-
able morsel of Russian history.

To read with satisfaction an animated oration, it is necessary we should
put ourselves in the place of the speaker, that we may be able to
enter into the views which animated him at the time. To do this on

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the present occasion, we ought to advert that the situation of Lomonosoff was extremely dissimilar to our own. We in Britain have been long accustomed to enjoy the protection of a steady government so entirely, that we have scarcely an idea of the miseries that those experience who have been exposed to the ravages of anarchy and misrule. Lomonosoff from his infancy, had been witness to the horrors which originate in unstable government; and had been exposed to the innumerable evils to which unprotected indigence is perpetually subjected in such a case: Yet stimulated by the amazing powers of his own mind, he had struggled against difficulties, that to almost any other man would have been insurmountable, and at last had the happiness to see tranquillity restored, the industrious citizens protected, and himself raised from the dregs of the people to enjoy a most distinguished place in the councils of his sovereign. In these circumstances, an excess of gratitude would not have been an unpardonable failing; and if this panegyric ad been even extravagant, it could scarcely be condemned. Those who are best acquainted with the history of the prince he served, will be the most disposed to join with the orator in his just praises of that amiable potentate.

But it is the actions of *Peter*, the father of his protectress, that attract the principal attention of the orator, and form the chief subject of this animated oration. With a bias no less natural than just, the mind of Lomonosoff dilates with wonderful pleasure on the exertions of *Peter*. Lomonosoff fixed his mind steadily on *Peter* from his birth; he knew that he had been reared up in ignorance, and educated in error: He saw him in early youth assailed by prejudices on every side, while the impenetrable gloom of ignorance, put it out of his power to distinguish the true road from those crooked paths into which his false guides were perpetually drawing him aside. He saw the hero groping his way with an unconquerable perseverance, and at last tearing asunder the thick veil that had overshadowed the kingdom for ages; and at length bursting forth into the effulgence of glory. Was it a wonder if the man who had, himself, experienced a similar struggle, should appreciate the merit of the person who had overcome these difficulties in more animated strains than those who never having experienced the trials, can have no idea of the merit of having overcome them.

It was these great ideas filling the mind of the philosopher which raised his language to that unwonted elevation, so conspicuous towards

the close of this oration; and it was that unaffected piety, which trying occasions never fail so excite in a great mind, that gave to the whole that dignified humility, which constitutes the surest basis of true pathos in composition.

In reading this little performance, I have often been at a loss whether most to admire the orator, or the hero who forms the subject of the oration. When I view the son of the poor fisherman of Archangel, without teachers, without books, surrounded by men little better informed than the fishes they caught; when I see him tossed from hand to hand, through a vast vicissitude of scenes in the lowest spheres of life, which had no common resemblance but the difficulties that they all equally presented against the acquisition of knowledge. When I see that man at last bursting through the gloom like the sun in the firmament, and delivering an oration fraught with a variety of the most important knowledge in sciences and arts, my veneration for the man is little short of idolatry. I bend myself before thee illustrious Lomonosoff! Thy genius I admire; but it is the rectitude of thy mind, and the mild beneficence of all thy views which I adore. When shall a genius arise to do thy memory justice! Lomonosoff alone was capable of estimating the genius of Peter; for he also had overcome impossibilities. The record of the actions of Peter remain; and these, to the discerning mind will ever prove his best eulogium. The writings of Lomonosoff are preserved. In future times, these will furnish a copious subject for admiration to persons yet unborn: I bend before thee illustrious Lomonosoff! It is impossible to say how much I venerate thy name!

ORATION.

In celebrating the most sacred unction and coronation of our most gracious sovereign,* we see, hear-

* This was Elizabeth the youngest daughter of Peter the great, by Cathrine his beloved queen. From the death of Cathrine in the year 1727, till the accession of Elizabeth in the year 1742, the Russian empire had been exposed to a variety of distresses under the cruel sway of the imperious Biron, (of whose wonderful history a short abstract is given, Bée vol. 6 p. 135.) and other intriguing statesmen and favourites, under a rapid succession of weak princes, till at length by a well concerted effort, the partizans of Elizabeth effected a revolution, without bloodshed in one night, by which the infant John was set aside,

ers, the same divine condescension to her, and to our common country, at which we wondered in her birth, and in the attainment of her patrimonial rank. Her birth was made conspicuous by signs foretelling regency; her accession to the throne by an unseen power from on high; and the joyous assumption of her father's crown, by miraculous victories from the hand of the Lord. Did any one entertain a doubt whether potentates on earth are appointed by Heaven, or whether they attain dominion by chance, the birth of our great sovereign is sufficient to convince him, seeing that she was then chosen to rule over us. It is neither the doubtful guessings of astrology founded on the conjunction of planets, nor other changes and appearances dependent on natural causes, but evident intimations of divine providence, that serve as proofs of this assertion. Peter's most glorious victory over his enemies at Poltowa happened in the same year with the birth of his great daughter; and Elizabeth on entering the world, met the conqueror entering Moscow in triumph. Is not the finger of Heaven here obvious? Do not we hear with the ear of imagination, a voice proclaiming, "Behold,

and Anne of Mecklenberg his mother, who acted as regent in his name, and Elizabeth established on the throne. Under her reign Russia once more attained a stability of government somewhat of the same nature it had experienced during the latter part of the reign of Peter; but with the favourable difference of a gentler administration and less severity in executing the laws, so that the people experienced a degree of happiness they never had formerly enjoyed; and the empire attained a degree of respectability among neighbouring nations which it had lost for many years during the cruel anarchy that had there prevailed.

behold a consummation of that prosperity promised by prediction." Peter triumphed, having conquered his foreign enemies, and eradicated rebellion; Elizabeth was born for like triumphs. Peter having restored a crown to its lawful master,* marched into the city of his ancestors — Elizabeth entered into human society, that she might afterwards recover the crown of her father. Peter having preserved Russia from dismemberment, dispelled gloomy terror, secured safety and joy: Elizabeth saw the light, that by shedding on us the rays of comfort, she might disperse the darkness of our griefs. Peter led a numerous train of prisoners subdued more by magnanimity than by the sword: Elizabeth excluded herself from the womb that she might enslave the hearts of her subjects, by humanity, meekness, and liberality. How wonderfully, O hearers! is the council of God here manifested: birth and victory, deliverance to the mother, and safety to the native country, birth-day rejoycings, and military triumphs, swadling clothes, and victorious laurels, the first voice of infancy and joyous acclamation. Did not all these foretell to the new born Elizabeth, her father's virtues, her father's empire.†

* The reinstatement of the king of Poland who had been deposed by Charles xii.

† After Charles xii. of Sweden had obtained a series of the most astonishing victories over the armies of Peter, without having even received any considerable check, he began to dream that he was invincible; and disregarding the obstacles that Peter threw in his way, made an attack on his army at Pultowa, against such a powerful and well situated army as it was impossible to overcome. After performing

In the acquisition of this empire, our joyous remembrances will never cease to celebrate how much Almighty Providence supported her heroism: Our heroine, actuated by his spirit, and sustained by his strength, has secured safety and renovation to the Russian nation; to its well deserved fame; to the mighty works and plans of Peter; to the intimate peace of our souls; and to the general prosperity of a distinguished part of the world: To save one individual is a great matter; how much more the salvation of a whole people. In you, my dear country, in you we see the example! Provoked by the mutual quarrellings of our ancestors, by their injustice, robberies, and fratricides, God had subjected you to a foreign tongue*, and on your body torn with cruel wounds had imposed heavy fetters. Appeased by your groanings and lamentations, he raised up to you valiant chiefs, deliverers from slavery and weariness. These having collected your scattered members, restored and advanced your former strength, majesty, and fame. The great Elisabeth, elevated by the divine influence, to the throne of her

prodigies of valour that seemed to exceed human powers, Charles here suffered a total defeat, which so intirely destroyed his little army, as rendered him incapable from ever after doing any thing effectual in the field, and freed the empire of Russia from the cruel ravages of this furious madman. This memorable battle was fought on the 8 of July 1709.

* Alluding to the conquest of Russia by the Tartars, and Poles, and Swedes, who had successively, for a period of two hundred years before the reign of Peter the Great, subjected Russia to the most humiliating state of servitude.

father, has saved the Russian people from no less a misery ; but in a more surprising manner *. As internal diseases are most fatal, no danger nursed in the bosom of a state is more dreadful than foreign invasion. External wounds are easier healed than internal injuries. Yet if we compare the liberation of Russia from the devastation of barbarous foreign arms, with that wonderful deliverance from lurking internal confusion, wrought by the hand of Elisabeth, we shall find the contrary. In healing our external wounds, the fields and floods were no less impurpled with Russian than with Tartarian blood : but in these happy days, our gracious Elisabeth, in a short space, has eradicated deep rooted evils without our toils, and has healed our sick country, as with a word full of divine influence, " Rise up and walk, rise up and walk Russia ; shake off your doubts ; full of joy and hope, be gay, be happy, and be exalted."

It is the remembrance of the satisfaction that we then felt, hearers, that paints such images in our thoughts. But these are more animated when we reflect, that we are delivered not only from oppres-

* The panegyrist alludes to the revolution in 1742, after the death of the empress Anna Ivanowna, Biron and his party placed the infant prince Iwan on the throne, in prejudice to the right of Elisabeth daughter to Peter the great. Elisabeth deposed Iwan without effusion of blood, except what was spilt on the scaffold, which was inconsiderable, if we compare it with the notions formerly entertained of the ferocity of the Russian people. This princess was so averse to blood that she abolished all capital punishment; a plan of government which is pursued by the Great Catherine.

tion, but from dispite. What did the world say of us before our deliverance? Do not their words still echo in our memories? "Rusians, Rusians, you have forgot Peter the Great: You are wanting in gratitude for his services. They don't raise his daughter to the throne: She is desett'd, and they don't assist; she is despised and they don't revenge." O what shame and derision! But our incomparable heroine has done away reproach from among the sons of Russia, and has justified them to the world. Our good will was not wanting, but her magnanimity restrained. Our zeal was not deficient, but she abhorred bloodshed. To our cowardice must not be attributed what was the council of God; who was pleased in this manner to manifest his power, to show her fortitude, and to increase our veneration and our happiness. Such mercies has the Most High secured to us by the advancement of great Elisabeth to the throne of her progenitor! But what is to day's festival? The crown and consummation of all. God crowns her wondrous birth; he crowns her glorious accession; he crowns her unaffected virtues; he has crowned her with his grace; he has encouraged her with hopeful joy; he has blessed her with love sounding victories; with victories similar to her progress to the throne; for, as her internal enemies were subdued without blood, so her foreign foes were overcome with small loss.

Our sovereign arrays herself in purple; is consecrated to dominion, is crowned, and assumes the globe and sceptre. The enraptured Rusians fill

the air with shouts and acclamations. The enemy trembles and grows pale; they bend themselves, and turn their backs to the Russian legions: They hide themselves in marshes, behind rivers and mountains; but the powerful hand of Elisabeth every where oppresses them, and it is only from her generosity that they receive respite. How evident our assurances of happy dominion; we now wonder at its actual existence. After the example of her great progenitor, she grants crowns to sovereigns, gives quiet to Europe by her peaceful arms, secures the Russian succession. Gold and silver flow from the bowels of the earth for her own use, and for the public advantage. Her subjects are relieved from burdens; the earth is untainted with Russian blood, at home and abroad; the people multiply, the revenues increase, justice is regulated, arts are planted,—every where lovely peace, and times emblematic of our sovereign, uninterrupted reign.

To be continued.

SKETCHES OF THE PORTICO IN THE GARDENS OF EPI-

L ² CURUS.
For the Bee.

To Joannes Amadies, June 12 1793.

"E si me vario jactatum laudis amore,
Iritâque expertum fallacis præmia vulgi,
Cecropius suaveis expirans hortulus auras
Florentis viridi Sophiæ complectitur umbra."

OF the portico in the gardens of Epicurus! Yes Amadies however paradoxical this may appear, I

have seen it and am able to describe it, since I surveyed it this morning with Epicurus himself, who deigned to visit me in an airy dream.

——— For my sleep
 “ Was airy light, from pure digestion bred
 “ And temperate vapours bland, which th’ only sound
 “ Of leaves and fuming rills, Aurora’s fan
 “ Lightly dispers’d, and the thrill matin song
 “ Of birds on every bough ;”———

I had walked out earlier than usual at the fragrant, cool, and pleasant time when every herb, and fruit, and flower was glistening with dew.

A charming stillness animated by the music of the groves inclined me to the most chearful and pleasing contemplation of the beauties of nature, and when the Sun began to beam more fiercely on me than was agreeable, I retired to the shade of my summer house, and seated myself on a torse of straw in the niche of Epicurus, which I had chosen by accident. I was tired, and soon afterward I fell asleep. The last sound I heard in sweetly descending into the arms of the papaverous power, was the twittering of the swallow. Ah how delightful was this mid-way hovering between the worlds of activity and rest! Ah how delightful and happy were it to believe this to be an authentic emblem of approaching death to him who has not lived in vain! I dreamt, and I saw as I thought advancing towards me on the verdant meadow near the obelisk dedicated to the genius of ancient times, a venerable old man leaning on a staff that seemed to be of maple.

His mantle was white, and appeared to be of the finest woollen. Sweetly smiling and placid was his

countenance, and down unto his girdle was his beard of grey, that yielded to the breeze as he walked forward to salute me. By the trick of his face, and my remembrance of seals and statues, I knew him to be the antagonist of Zeno.

I was overawed, but I was not afraid.

In silence I bowed to him, and he saluted me by my name.

Ascanius, said he with a smile beyond the power of a Guercino or a Rheynolds to express, I am come to visit you on your birth day, and to thank you for not listening to the calumniators of my life, my writings and my character.

From your own happy experience, you are able to sit in judgement on my judges, and to know that dirt, affectation of apathy, maceration of body, obstinacy in opinion, and the imputation of mutability and passion to the infinite and eternal spirit of the universe, are not the ways to reform mankind, and to make them conformable to the eternal and beautiful order of nature, possessing their bodies in healthful vigour by the rational use of all their faculties, and their souls in tranquillity by the practice of virtue.

I came forth into the world at a time when the wealth of nations founded on free government, and the subdivision of useful employment, had long afforded leisure for fanciful inquiry.

I had a strong propensity to rational curiosity myself, and I wished to promote it in others.—After much study and contemplation, I founded a school, and finding it impossible as an honest man to

adopt the superstition of India and Egypt, which had gradually become so popular in Greece, I entered as it were into the recesses of my own unsophisticated understanding, and applied the rules of common reason and sense to the pedantry of the schools and the superstition of the people.

When I taught that superstition had its origin in fear, I taught nothing that has not been evinced by the everlasting experience of mankind. When I represented the universe as infinite and eternal, I showed it in no other light than it must be looked upon for ever by those who consider the infinite power and duration of the spirit by which it is animated and directed. If I held the tendency of matter to be equal in all directions, and finally convergent no where, I taught only what must necessarily follow from the infinity of worlds. If that nothing in the universe was quiescent, on similar principles founded on the infinite activity of the spirit wherewith matter is universally pervaded and actuated. When I sportively yielded to the doctrines of Moschus, of Leucippus, and Democritus, that all nature was in a constant state of deperition and renovation, but finally inexterminable in its principles, I taught that which seemed at the same time to be most conformable to wisdom and the eternal spirit of the universe.

I did not consider the world and worlds as machines that required to be mended and renewed in their primary, or inferior and secondary movements, but as an infinite whole without error, emanating and acting uniformly from and with and around an

infinite and intelligent spirit, whose nature and propensity it was, and is, and ever will be, to connect wisdom and happiness with order, and to bless and make happy continually in the order of wisdom and conformity to universal nature. All these speculations are to me now as the playful mimickries of children, or the wandering dreams of the contemplative Hermit. But heaven has not deceived us. Truth and reason with us are purged of doubt and error, but are the same in substance as when they were dimly seen, through the grosser medium of terrestrial organs.

I lived and I taught in a garden, not that I might pass my days in indolence and pleasure, but that I might habituate myself, and my disciples to the lessons and admonitions of nature, and live contentedly on her simplest productions.

I did not abstain from the use of animal food, like the superstitious Indians, or the self macerating disciples of Zeno; or from blood, like the Egyptians who, fond of flesh, made a compromise with the foolish superstition of the Indians; but I lived upon cakes made of maize, and drank from the living fountain, improving and enjoying without intemperance all the cultivated fruits of the earth, and using wine only in the feasts of friendship and commemoration of the illustrious dead. "*Occupavimus te Fortuna atque cepimus, omnes aditus tuos intercludere conavimus, ut ad nos adspirare non posses.*"* I taught that the desire of pleasure or happiness was the

* Tusc. quest 5.

prime mover of the human frame and of the human mind, and that in the possession or enjoyment of real and permanent pleasure the chief happiness of man did consist, and I endeavoured to prove that this pleasure was in the absence of bodily pain, and in the presence of mental tranquillity by virtue. That sacrifices, and ceremonies in the temples, abnegations and macerations of body, or dejections of spirit in cloistered retirement, were of no avail for the favour of the God of the universe, nor any thing short of sincere confidence in his wisdom and goodness and benevolence towards our fellow creatures.

For these doctrines, and the abuse which was made of them by some of my followers, I was railed at by the stoicks whom I railed not again, because I knew that in there austere pretences to superior virtue, and in the pride of their performances, they disdained my principles, which were founded on the weakness of human nature, and its improvement by rational and attainable purposes.

The doctrines of my garden, led to no less purity of manners than those of the Portico, but they led to them as an effect of my principles, and not as a foundation for spiritual pride, and philosophical ostentation. My disciples were temperate and correct in their manners, but they were gay and cheerful. Virtue and happiness were with them inseparable; and *I taught them to believe that they could not subsist asunder*. I could never believe or teach that the world was disturbed by Dæmons, but rather that it was uniformly governed with perfect wisdom,

but in a manner ultimately inscrutable to the wisdom of man, though *discoverable every where, in faint but beautiful traces of the glorious system*". Having said thus, he paused, and I, though full of admiration and respect, was able in broken accents thus to address the venerable man.

O excellent and injured Epicurus ! Thou hast now amply discovered that virtue did not deceive thee upon earth, but is the never failing friend of man.

I also desire to be fully persuaded that all rational beings were formed for each other and that bearing with them is a branch of justice and a source of happiness ; that mistakes are involuntary, and the ultimate affections of the heart almost always unknown : that health of body and peace of mind, which constitute supreme happiness, can consist only in virtue producing in the body absence from pain and irritation *by temperance*, and in the mind tranquillity, *by the love of order and by confidence in the perfection of the Supreme Being and of the universe*. Ah why should I suffer the little affair of glory to disturb me when I reflect how all the things that I admire ~~shall~~ be involved in oblivion and in the vast immensity of eternal duration.

How empty the noisy echo of applauses ; how fickle and injudicious the applauders ; how narrow the bounds within which our praise is confined ; and that the earth itself, nay all that the finest glasses can descry in the firmament, is but as a point in the infinity of nature !

Yes Epicurus, I also desire above all things to keep myself from distraction and from useless desires, to retain my freedom, and to consider every thing as a man of courage, as a man, as a citizen, as a poor and fallible mortal; that the world is in continual change, that this life is seated in opinion and will quickly pass away never to return, while virtue and happiness being seated in the soul must be eternal like itself.

While I was thus speaking, I found myself drawn involuntarily to my Portico in the summer house, that I might show to my visitor the statues of Lucretius Carus, of Pomponius Atticus, of Horace, and of Galsendi; but in moving along methought I struck my foot upon a stone and fell to the ground, which awakened me in trepidation from my pleasing dream.

I started up suddenly from my place, and beheld with great confusion before my face, the statue of Epicurus in the nyche where I had fallen asleep.

As soon as I had recovered myself I went away with pleasing alacrity to assist in the sowing of my turnip.

Felix ille animi divisque simillimus ipsis
 Quem non mendaci resplendens gloria fuco
 Sollicitat, non fastosi mala gaudia luxus:
 Sed placidos sinit ire dies, et paupere culta
 Exigit innocuæ tranquilla silentia vitæ.

ON THE DELAYS INCIDENT TO THE COURT OF SESSION.

Mr. Macnaul
Continued from p. 172.

To the Lord President of the Court of Session.

LETTER V.

MY LORD,

OUR ancient laws and regulations, however venerable, cannot in every particular be well adapted to the manners and situation of the present day. But as all human institutions admit of being modified, some of them are moulded by time and usage, into the form required, and others require a direct alteration, to answer the change of times. A gradual alteration has taken place in the mode of pursuing and defending an action. Unnecessary processes are no longer raised, to vex and harass an opponent in place of aiding or securing the recovery of the debt; and *dilatory* and unavailing defences are justly considered as unbecoming the practitioners; who are also in use to concert matters with each other, as to the time and manner of proceeding in the cause: but although, by these means, a good deal of the former waste of time is saved, much more must be done in order to attain the desirable object of cutting off as far as may be all unnecessary delay.

In no one instance, is it more difficult to do so than in the case of an appointment to make up a *state*

and order of ranking: Such a state must be lodged before the cause can proceed, but yet the *common agent* cannot lose *his* cause, by not preparing it against the day assigned to him; and although he were to forfeit his office, still his clerk or his friend might be elected, and he enjoy the profits, through a continuance of the same favour and countenance of his brethren, by means of which he first obtained it.

He might also find means to have a fine or a penalty dispensed with, and even though the fine should be rigourously exacted at first, the common relaxation of it would soon take place.

It is or ought to be a favourite object of new regulations to reach evils of this description. At the same time it is scarcely possible to suggest an adequate remedy. What I would submit to your lordship is, that the creditors should be subjected to a loss for the neglect of their agent, and that the clerks of court should have a fee, (for example) of $2\frac{1}{2}$ per cent on the fund of division, and also that a new fee of the same amount should be due to them as often as the common agent should fail to obtemper a renewed order for lodging the state.

As such a forfeiture would embroil the agent with the creditors, he would be careful neither to suffer the loss himself, nor by subjecting them to it, to incur their displeasure. And from the constitution of the court, (not to mention the character of the members,) there can be no ground to fear that the clerks and the practitioners could connive together in such a case.

In a process of ranking and sale, delays occur, previous to the *order* to make up the *state*, one of which is not extracting the decret of *certification*. It is not easy to compel the common agent to take out the extract; but the interlocutor or decret itself may be made *final* in two, three, or four weeks, as may be thought expedient; and a regulation ought also to take place against opening it up on slight pretences, such as are admitted of at present, or indeed on any occasion short of *minority* or *inability to act*. This appears to be necessary for bringing forward the creditors to produce their interests in proper time.

Other delays occur after the *state* and *order* is lodged. It always contains objections against numbers of the *interests* or grounds of debt produced for the creditors. And before the process can travel round the different doers, for these several creditors, to have the objections answered in succession, not weeks or months only, but, whole *sessions* are sometimes consumed. Almost an equal space elapses in the making of duplies, and perhaps half the time may be taken as the medium for lodging replies; but this letter is already too long to follow the subject farther, and therefore I hasten to close it, being &c.

LENTULUS.



ON IMPROVEMENTS IN ARTILLERY.

SIR,

Professor Anderson
To the Editor of the Bee.

FOR two reasons, I thank you for inserting in your useful miscellany, page 73 of this volume, the inscription which I sent you from Stirling. The first is, because it is an example of that simplicity, which, in my opinion, ought to be in all such inscriptions. And the second is, because it conveys a most important truth to the lovers of mankind, and to the lovers of warfare. As I respect the author of it for these two reasons, I resolved to see him when I went to Glasgow, in order to hear his defence to my charge, which is in the following words in the same page: "I am informed that the gentleman who wrote the inscription has dedicated a great part of his time to the perfection of military engines of destruction. How he can reconcile his theory with his practice, I pretend not to say." When I urged this argument at some length, he said to me: "yours is a common opinion both with the vulgar and the learned; but it is very far from being well founded." And he then not only read to me the following passage from one of his essays on war, but he allowed me to take a copy of it.

"Those persons who have had the greatest knowledge in military affairs have remarked, that victory is almost constantly obtained by producing unexpected danger. From which it follows, that besides the advantage of using a powerful gun, the using it in situations where it is not looked for, will contribute

greatly to the success of assailants. And, it is a pleasing reflection, that the more the art of killing men in battle is improved, the fewer men are killed; as appears by comparing the list of the killed and wounded in modern, with that in ancient battles, when the numbers of the combatants were equal.

“ This remarkable event has arisen from the use of gun powder in war, and from the improvements of muskets and field pieces, which have made the following changes in the mode of fighting.

“ Before the invention of fire arms, the combatants in battle had foot to foot, and shield to shield, so that he that fled, was almost certain of death, or of wounds; but in modern battles, the combatants are so seldom near each other, that in general flight produces safety.

“ In the ancient engagements, personal enmity was almost unavoidable, because every one saw his adversary; which, joined to the practice of killing or selling the prisoners, produced an obstinacy in the ancient battles very different from that in the modern, in which the distance and the smoke, hinder the combatants from knowing each other, and in which all the prisoners are treated with the utmost humanity.

“ The armies of ancient times were arranged in deep columns with narrow fronts. But, since the improvements on muskets and field pieces, armies have been arranged in long thin lines; so that the battle is never general at the same time, nor consequently the flight. This makes it dangerous to pursue; because there are always parts of the

army which are in good order, and which would come upon the flanks or the rear of the victor.

“ It was in the flight, that the greatest part of the men were killed in former times; and the slaughter was chiefly effected by the expedition of the cavalry. But now, their pursuit is quickly checked; because a cannon ball is thrown to a much greater distance than an ancient missile weapon; and with force enough to kill many men at once, though defended by the strongest shields, and by coats of mail made of iron.

“ The cavalry, in their pursuit, must go through a country that is open, or that has narrow passes, or that is full of trees. In the first case, the cannon balls reach to a great distance, and, bounding from place to place, produce havoc, and confusion. In the second case, light-field-pieces are placed in the narrow passes, where every ball is effective in a powerful manner, by acting upon a deep column. In the third case, iron balls knock splinters from the trees, by which the men and horses are destroyed, or thrown into disorder. And, in every case, when the cavalry come near, they are large marks for constant showers of case-shot, from guns which can be defended for a long time, and by a few men, in such situations; while, in the mean time, the vanquished troops will have got far to the rear, and have had time to recover their order, and their courage.

“ Thus the inventions which were thought to be the most destructive in war, have saved many lives, and produced much humanity. And, thus, every improvement in field pieces, will not only

1793:

on the pholas.

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give victory to the army which first uses it; but, after the improvement is generally known, it will diminish the carnage in battles."

The above words, it is well known, were printed in an essay which was presented to the Duke of Richmond in the year 1788; and many copies of it were presented to the friends of the author—That, "every improvement in field pieces will give victory to the army which first uses it," has been lately proved, by the armies of France, to the conviction of Europe. That "after the improvement is generally known, it may diminish the carnage in battles," must be the prayer of every lover of the human kind, in every age, and in every country. Praying sincerely that it may be so, I am respectfully, Sir,

Your most obedient Servant

A RIDER.

SIR,

To the Editor of the Bee.

YOUR correspondent Th. R. from Sutherland states a fact well known in the natural history of testaceous animals, but from the similarity of shape I suppose he has mistaken the species of shell fish found in the stone, which I am apt to think was not a muscle as described by him, but a pholas, the history of which at considerable length he will find in *La Conchyliologie de Mr D'Argenville*, and figured in plate 26 fig. K. of part first, and plate 7 fig. S. of part second. It is also described in *Pennant's zoology* vol. 4. p. 77, and called by him *pholas parvus*, and a figure given plate XL. fig. 13. Shells of this species are frequently met with in Scotland, and are found in great quantities at Toulon in Provence, and at Ancona in

Italy, where they are found in the hardest stones, but most commonly in marble, which is broken with large hammers to come at the fish, which is reckoned a great delicacy. It would not suit your miscellany to enter more at large into the history of this curious fish; I shall therefore, only farther observe that I have often found stones that had been preforated by pholades, deprived of their first inhabitant, whose place was supplied by other shell fish, such as oysters, muscles, &c. probably forced from their native beds by storms, when very young, and by a heavy swell of the sea driven into the deserted habitation of the pholas, where they continue to encrease in size till they completely fill the original excavation. The pholas is also described by Rondelet lib. 1. p. 49. Lister hist. anim. Angliæ, p. 172. *Aldrovandus de testaceis* lib. 3. *Auctarium Balfourianum* &c. &c. By the by mentioning this last author brings to my remembrance what Mr D'Argenville says when giving a history of the most famous cabinets of nat. hist. in Europe, which you shall have in his own words.

“ Le fameux cabinet d'André Balfourianus medecin, se voit dans la bibliotheque publique de la ville d'Edinbourg capitale d'Ecosse; c'est une composé de tout ce qu'on peut voir de plus rare en chaque genre, à en juger par le livre imprimé que nous en avons, sur tout depuis qu'on y a joint le cabinet de Robert Sibbaldus medecin, qui en a fait present à la ville, à condition de le rendre publique.”

Can you tell, Mr Editor, where this famous collection is now kept; I should like to have a peep at it.

Z.

POETRY.

SIR, *To the Editor of the Bee.*

By inserting the following ode in the Bee, you will oblige your most
obedient servant, A. A.

ODE TO AURORA.

FAIR smiling goddess of the dawn,
That o'er the dew-bespangled lawn
Serenely beam'st with rosy eye,
All beauteous in the dappled sky;
Soon as thou cheer'st the mountain's height,
Purpling afar the orient wave,
Abash'd the sable power of night
Shoots with increasing speed to dark Cimmerian cave;

Lo, startled by thy hostile beam,
Night's terrors fly the heavenly gleam;
And fire eyed forms and spectres pale
Flock fearful to the cavern'd dale.
So when fair science beams along,
The gloom of ignorance profound,
Aghast withdraws her blackening throng;
And beauty, order, truth, triumphant smile around.

Dimm'd by thy roseate lustre, fly
The nightly squadrons of the sky;
Save when the radiant queen of love *
Displays her emulous gem above:
Anon she shines with peerless light,
The brilliant harbinger of day,
Till streaming glorious on the sight,
Bursts from the golden wave Hyperion's flaming ray.

Wak'd by thy smile creative, glows
The landscape vivid as the rose:
The fields their goodliest tints unveil,
And fragrance floats upon the gale,
To thee the woodland pours its strains:
Mid solitude's enchanting sway
The lark, the songster of the plains,
Mounts from her lowly nest, and trills her matin lay.

Pleas'd the industrious peasant eyes
Thy blush, and to his labour hies;
Thou, murderous slumber dost controul,
And wak'st the vigour of the soul.

- * Venus, sometimes the morning, and sometimes the evening star.
- About the time of her greatest elongation from the sun, she is so bright
as to continue visible, when to the west of him, till he rise; and to
a sharp eye even when he is far above the horizon.

On sleep-chain'd health thou steal'st amain:
 But slowly shines thy lingering ray
 To him, that on the bed of pain
 At even laments the night, at morn bewails the day.

And slow's thy welcome to the wight
 That hapless toils the tedious night
 Tempestuous through the wintry wild,
 Where horror roams, Gorgonian child:
 And to the storm toss'd wretch, forlorn
 Amidst the darksome ocean's roar,
 Who, by the boisterous waters born,
 Dreads the un pitying strand, or rude basaltic shore.

Long, long in Thetis' caverns lost,
 Thou quitt'st Lapponia's guileless* coast,
 And Nova Zembla's icy plains,
 Or where the Oby † sleeps in chains:
 Long mourns in Greenland's snow-clad cave
 The Troglodyte thine absence drear;
 Till o'er th' illumin'd arctic wave
 Thy saffron robe he spies, and hails the vernal year.

When Chaos held his throne of old
 Where frightful desolation scowl'd,
 And o'er the monstrous waste profound
 Night brooded horrible around;
 Thy cheering light, full sweet, I ween,
 Upspringing broke the midnight gloom;
 And o'er creation's varied scene
 Dispers'd its orient hues, and bade all nature bloom.

And sweet thy face, when first it glow'd
 On Eden's heavenly prime, and sow'd
 With glittering pearls the garnish'd ground,
 And balmy odours breath'd around;
 Or sweeter still, with pure delight
 When soft-eyed cherubs hail'd thy ray;
 And, spoiling death, the lord of might
 Victorious burst the tomb, and sought the realms of day.

Well may the muse, with rapturous voice,
 In thy transporting charms rejoice:
 Oft from Parnassus' flowery swell,
 Enchanted as by magic spell,
 She views thy kindling form divine
 Disporting in the eastern sky;
 And borrows oft, to grace her lines,
 The roses of thy cheek, and radiance of thine eye.

Peterhead, May, 1793.

A. A. ‡.

* Concerning the blest innocence of the Laplanders, see Linnæus's
 preface to his *Flora Lapponica*.

† A river of Siberia.

‡ The farther correspondence of this writer will prove very ac-
 ceptable.

MEMORIAL of the Earl of Galloway and others, to the Right Honourable the Lords Commissioners of His Majesty's Treasury, dated London April 15. 1783.

SHEWETH, That attempts have been lately made in Scotland, to salt beef and pork to a considerable extent, both for use of ships in their voyages, and for exportation to foreign markets: And if reasonable encouragement is held out to such as may think proper to carry on this branch of trade in Great Britain, it might in time prove very beneficial both to the landed and commercial interests thereof; because the farmers and graziers would then have stronger inducements to raise and fatten cattle and hogs, when they could at all times find a good and ready market for them; and the merchant would not always be under the necessity of either importing these articles from Ireland, or sending his ships to that kingdom, not only for a supply to his correspondents abroad, but also for the very provisions requisite for the use of his ship during her voyage. Nevertheless, as the laws stand at present relative to the duties upon salt, and to the drawbacks upon the exportation of salted provisions, it appears absolutely impracticable, that any attempts made in Great Britain to cure beef and pork for exportation, or for the use of ships during their voyage, can be attended with success to those who may engage in such a business. And, if such is the fact, which will appear by the following observations, it is equally impossible, that the farmer or grazier can have sufficient encouragement to raise and fatten cattle and hogs, because he would not find a ready market for them, should he increase his present quantity to any considerable extent.

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That, either owing to inattention, or some other cause, Scotland, as the laws stand at present, is not even upon a footing with England in the article of curing beef and pork for exportation, in two very essential points, *viz.*

1. That in England, the drawback of five shillings per barrel is received upon the exportation of a barrel containing 32 gallons of well cured beef or pork, whether it is cured with English or foreign salt separately, or with a mixture of each; whereas in Scotland, no such drawback, or any drawback whatever indeed, is allowed upon such a barrel, *unless cured with foreign salt alone*; nay, what is more remarkable, no beef or pork cured with a mixture of salt, can, as the law at present stands, be exported from Scotland, even without the bounty or drawback, and even although the Scots salt, used therein has paid the equalizing duty with England. It is true, the commissioners of the customs, upon application, generally permit such to be exported; but they never, and it is presumed cannot allow the drawback of five shillings *per barrel* on the exportation of provisions so cured with a mixture of salts. Now, this hardship will appear particularly distressing to Scotland, when it is considered, that in order to cure beef and pork properly to stand a warm climate, it is essentially necessary that it should be first rubbed *with small or bone made salt*, as is the universal practice in Ireland, and lie in the pickle thereof from ten to twenty days, in order to draw off the blood and other superfluous juices, which is called pining; *for, if great or foreign salt was used in this part of the process, the juices of the provisions would be so much exhausted by the strength thereof, and they would thereby become so dry and hard, that they would be unfit almost for use, at least for sale in a well supplied market.* After being so rubbed and pined with small salt, the provisions are taken out of

the steeps, and then packed away with great salt in casks, proper for exportation; and those conversant in the business, know how necessary great or foreign salt is for this purpose. 2. In England, a proportional drawback is allowed of two shillings and sixpence upon the exportation of half-barrels; whereas in Scotland no drawback is allowed upon any casks under the size of thirty-two gallons, even although the beef or pork therein is cured with *foreign salt* alone,---a hardship obvious and well known to those conversant in the business, many half barrels being wanted for the convenience of stowage, and the supply of the West India islands.

That the memorialists do not mean to insinuate, that even if Scotland was put upon a footing with England in these two particulars, any attempts made there to cure provisions for exportation, or for the use of ships during their voyages, will be attended with success, while the salt duties, and bounties or drawbacks on salted beef and pork, remain as they at present are; neither can such attempts be attended with success in England, as will be evident from the following considerations:

First, At the time of the Union, the duty in England upon home made salt was only 3 s. 4 d. *per* bushel of 56 lib. and upon foreign great salt only 6 s. 11 d. *per* bushel of 84 lib.; and, at that period, the drawback paid in England, upon the exportation of beef or pork properly cured, was 5 s. *per* barrel of thirty-two gallons wine measure; which article was, by the 8th article of the Treaty of Union, extended to Scotland, upon paying at the custom-house of exportation, the equalizing duty with England on Scots salt used in curing such provisions. Now, as it takes about a bushel of home made salt, and nearly half a bushel of foreign great salt, to cure a barrel

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of beef or pork properly for exportation, and for the
pickle to fill it up when shipped, the duties thereon, ac-
cording the above mentioned rate, would be about 6 s. 9d.
By this drawback, therefore, of 5 s. *per* barrel, there was
about 1 s. 9d. paid to the revenue on each barrel export-
ed, provided the proportions of home-made and foreign
salt were used as above. If there was a greater propor-
tion of home-made salt used than above mentioned, the
duty to the revenue would be less, and *vice versa*. At
present, however, the duty on home-made salt is 5s. *per*
bushel of 56 lib. and upon foreign great salt 10s. 4d. *per*
bushel of 84 lib; the amount of which duty, in the above
proportions used in curing a barrel of beef or pork, is
10s. 6d.; while, at the same time, the drawback upon
exportation is no more still than 5s. Here, then, is an ev-
ident disadvantage of 3s. 5d. *per* barrel, which a per-
son who cures beef or pork in Britain now labours under,
more than he did before the late duties in 1780 and 1782
were laid upon salt.

2. The very heavy duties necessary to be paid down up-
on foreign salt, before it can be removed from the King's
cellars, is another very great disadvantage and discourage-
ment to any person who cures beef for exportation in
Great Britain. This duty, as stated above, is now about
10s. 4d. *per* bushel of 84 lib.; so that the proportion
thereof, being half-a-bushel as above mentioned, used up-
on each barrel of salted beef or pork, is 5s. 2d. besides
the duty upon a bushel of home-made salt also used there-
in, to be paid before it can be removed from the salt-
pans; making in all fully one-fourth part of the whole
value of each barrel of beef or pork when ready for mark-
et. This requires a great stock to be employed in such
a business, even if the whole duties were to be drawn
back at exportation, which deters a British merchant from

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engaging in it; especially when he considers, that in Ireland no duty whatever is paid upon Irish-made salt, only 34d. *per* bushel on British, and 44d. *per* bushel on foreign great salt; and on exportation of the provisions from thence, the merchant pays a farther duty of one shilling *per* barrel for beef, and 1s. 6d. for pork, all Irish money. The advantage, therefore, that the Irish has over the British merchant, is, in this respect, so evident, that it is unnecessary to say any thing farther upon it.

3. A third disadvantage under which a person would labour who cures beef or pork in Great Britain is, That no drawback whatever is allowed on the exportation thereof, whether intended for the use of ship's crews during their voyage, or for home-consumption. When the duty upon the importation of Irish provisions into Great Britain was 3s. 4d. *per* barrel, and at the same time the duties payable in Great Britain were only 3s. 4d. *per* bushel on home-made, and 6s. 11d. *per* bushel on foreign great salt, this restriction of the bounty upon beef and pork exported, would not materially affect the merchant who cured such provisions in Great Britain. But now, when it is considered that the duty upon importation of Irish provisions into Britain is wholly withdrawn, or taken off; while at the same time the duty upon home-made salt is increased to 5s. and upon foreign to 10s. 4d. *per* bushel, it is evident that no British merchant can cure beef or pork, for the use of ship's crews, or for home-consumption, under such great disadvantages, but will import from Ireland all that is necessary for him to do, and that 7s. or 8s. cheaper *per* barrel than he can cure them in Great Britain, by the saving alone of the duties upon salt; and the consumption of salted provisions for ships use in particular, is so very material, that few or no persons in Great Britain will engage in the curing beef or pork at all, unless

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they have some chance of supplying these articles for that consumption, which in the present situation of matters, it is impossible they can have, for the reasons above assigned.

4. Another considerable disadvantage the curets of provisions for exportation in Britain are under, is, That no barrel is entitled to any drawback whatever, unless it contains 32 gallons English wine measure, and half-barrels in proportion. The memorialists do not know whether any Acts of Parliament in England specify the quantity of beef and pork to be packed in each barrel; but the Scots Act, 1st Queen Anne, sect. iii. cap. 5. which enacts, That each barrel shall contain 8 gallons Scotch measure, being a little more than 28 gallons English wine measure only, requires 200 lib. well-pined beef or pork to be packed in each barrel. And it is somewhat extraordinary, that the 8th article of the Union, by which the drawback on exportation of 5s. *per* barrel is granted to Scotland, is wholly silent both as to the size of the barrels, and quantity to be packed therein: And the British Act, 5th Geo. I. cap. xviii. sect. 15. which enacts, That, "as the herring-barrels contain only 8 gallons 2 pints Scotch measure, which is only 29 gallons 3 pints 1½ gill English measure, they shall, after the 1st June 1719, be the same all over Britain, and contain 32 gallons,"—relates only to the size of barrels used in packing herrings; without taking any notice of the size of those of beef and pork: nor, so far as the memorialists know, has there been any Act of Parliament since, relative to the size of such barrels. It would appear, therefore, that the barrel of 8 gallons Scotch measure required by the Act of Queen Anne to contain 200 lib. well-pined beef or pork, is entitled, in Scotland, to the drawback of 5s. on exportation: But the contrary practice has crept in; as no barrel con-

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taining beef or pork is allowed the drawback. unless it be
32 gallons English wine measure. A barrel of 28 gallons
English wine measure, will contain 200 lib. of well-pined
beef and pork; and there is just that quantity packed in-
to the barrels used in Ireland, which at the same time
never contain more than 28 gallons. If, therefore, it is
not necessary to pack more than 200 lib. well pined beef
or pork in a barrel; and if a barrel of 28 gallons will
contain that quantity, which there is not a doubt of;
why should not the British merchant be allowed to use
barrels of that size, and to recover the drawback upon
exportation, in the proportion they bear to 32 gallons?
If he is not allowed to use such, one of these consequen-
ces must naturally follow, either that the provisions must
be loosely packed, which is very pernicious; or otherwise,
that from 25 to 30 lib. more beef or pork than an Irish
barrel contains, must be packed into each British barrel
containing 32 gallons. But the barrel containing 28 gal-
lons only, is found from experience to be the most handy
and convenient at a foreign market; and, strange as it
may appear, it is certain, that great complaints are made
of British barrels in the West Indies, on account of their
size only, although they contained from 25 to 30 lib. more
beef than the Irish barrels, and have been sold at the cur-
rent price of the latter; it is a great discouragement there-
fore to the British merchant to be obliged to pack 25 or
30 lib. more beef in his barrel, while at the same time, in-
stead of receiving any advantage therefrom at a market, he
experiences the reverse, on account of their size, and un-
handiness.

The Memorialists beg leave further to notice that a
barrel of beef salted for home consumption, pays about
10s. duty on salt to the revenue; whereas a barrel of beef
from Ireland, pays only 1s. duty to the revenue of Ireland
on salt. and none to the revenue of Britain on its import-

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ation and consumption here; so that there is a premium
of 8s. *per* barrel, which Irish beef consumed in Britain,
has over that of Britain

It is further to be observed, that after consuming a barrel of beef or pork cured with foreign salt, there is found in the barrel, at an average, about a quarter of a bushel of unconsumed salt. The duty on this quantity is about 2s. 6d. which the revenue loses on Irish beef and pork, consumed in Britain; as this salt is used, and very proper for culinary purposes.

The memorialists have stated the disadvantages under which the British merchant at present labours, in curing beef or pork, either for exportation, the use of his ships on their voyages, or home consumption: And they humbly hope they are only necessary to be pointed out, to induce the Legislature to give the necessary redress and relief, especially for the two first mentioned objects; as nothing is more certain, than that this branch of trade, if an adequate and proper encouragement is given to it, will not only greatly advantage the revenue in the duties upon salt, but there will also be much money kept in the country, which is sent elsewhere for salted provisions, tallow, and hides; and, in time, these two last articles, so necessary to the poor, after being manufactured into soap, candles, and shoes, &c. will thereby become cheaper in Great Britain.

Your memorialists, therefore, humbly pray your Lordships, to take the premises into consideration; and that your Lordships will be pleased to give your countenance and support to a bill, which may put the merchant who cures beef or pork, upon the same footing with the curers of herrings, as to the duties upon salt; allowing him, in the same manner, to receive home-made salt from the pans, and foreign

salt from the cellars, where it may be lodged under the joint custody of the importer and officer of the revenue, to be used for curing beef or pork for exportation, or for the use of the navy, or merchant ships in their voyages; under such oaths and regulations, and under such penalties as shall be thought proper. And more particularly, that, for the benefit of the revenue, there shall be paid for every barrel of 28 gallons, containing salted beef in pickle, 1s.; and of pork, 1s. 6d.; and so in proportion for casks of a larger or lesser size: And that for each cwt. of dried flesh, there shall be paid a duty of 4d.

(Signed) GALLOWAY.

STAIR.

KEITH STEWART.

J. HUNTER BLAIR.

NEW DISCOVERIES RESPECTING THE

Caoutchouc.

THE reader may perhaps recollect that in the second volume of the Bee, p. 101 many hints were given of the uses that might be made of the Caoutchouc, or elastic gum as it has been called in arts. As that gum cannot however be got in Europe in its fluid state, we have not as yet had it in our power to apply it to almost any of the purposes there mentioned; but men by turning their attention to that object, begin to find that it may, by various contrivances be converted to some use. The following are instances of this sort.

Hand's patent leather.

A gentleman of the name of *Hand* in Birmingham, as I am informed, has of late obtained a patent for preparing leather in a certain way that he has discovered, by

means of which, leather is said to be rendered perfectly impervious to water, and when soiled, requires only to be wiped with a sponge to restore it to its original lustre. The glaze and polish of that leather is indeed surprisingly fine, and far exceeds any thing of the sort we have seen, where the flexibility of the leather is preserved. This glazing we are assured consists of nothing else than a varnish made of caoutchouc in oil of turpentine or some other oil, and then exposing it to the air until the oil be entirely evaporated. This, though a much more expensive process than the employing the native juice by itself, and probably much less perfect also than that would be, may still be of use in many cases.

Leather prepared as above is so much enhanced in price, as to render a pair of shoes made of it about *nine shillings* dearer than if made of common leather, which must necessarily confine the use of it to a very few only.

Pieces of Caoutchouc cemented into an uniform mass.

As all the modes that have yet been discovered of making a solution of this gum, so as to permit it to be employed in a *fluid* state, are attended with great expence, various efforts have been made to try if the gum in its *solid* state could be so moulded as to be applied to economical uses, and in consequence of attention and repeated experiments, one gentleman has at length succeeded so far as to be able to join pieces of it together, which adhere so firmly as that if overstretched it will give way as readily in the *solid* parts as at the joining, and by that means he thinks many uses may be made of it. His process is very simple and not expensive.

The caoutchouc is brought over to Europe in the form of small bottles. He takes one of these bottles, and with a sharp instrument cuts it down into a long spiral slice, so as to form one continued narrow ribbon, if you please to give it that name. He then puts it in boiling water for the

space of a quarter of an hour or 20 minutes. It is thus in some measure softened, tho' not dissolved; and acquires a kind of transparency towards the edges. He then rolls it up firmly upon a mould prepared for the purpose, so as to make the edges overlap each other a little, and covers the whole mould with an uniform unbroken coating, and immediately wraps it all over with a piece of ribbon or tape, so as to compress the whole very firmly. In this state he allows it to remain till it be quite dry; and then, on taking off the bandage, he finds that the whole forms an uniform compact coating, which retains the shape of the mould after it is withdrawn, and has the same kind of flexibility with the caoutchouc in its natural state. When the mould is a smooth cylinder like a wire, which he employed, he found it could be withdrawn merely by dipping the whole for a few minutes in boiling water, and then pulling it out.

In this way he thinks catheters, &c. may be formed as good as those that have hitherto been made by a solution of caoutchouc in æther, and at a much smaller expence; and in the same way may be constructed tubes and cases of various forms, for many purposes in economy and arts, a few of which shall be here briefly specified.

Pumps for acids, and tubes of various sorts.

It has been long a desideratum among those who deal in acids, to find a pump that could be conveniently employed for taking them from one vessel into another. Perhaps it may be possible to supply that want by the contrivance above specified. For this purpose let a cylinder of the size wanted be provided; cover it as far as the length of the tube required. To give the tube the firmness required in the bore of a pump, take a pipe of thin tin plate, formed cylindrically, but having several small slits along its surface the whole way, of the precise breadth wanted, without being cemented. Let it then be laid over the cylinder covered with the caoutchouc, and firmly bound round

it the whole way, by a small wire, passed spirally around it. Then cover this plate directly with another coating of the same caoutchouc, laid over it in the same manner as before, taking special care that the plate be somewhat shorter at both ends than the caoutchouc coating. When thoroughly dry, let the mould be withdrawn, and you have the cylinder required, the metal being so entirely coated as to preserve it effectually from the acids.

You will easily perceive that the use of the small slits in the metal was to allow the two coatings of caoutchouc to touch each other in these places, so as to make the whole adhere firmly together, and keep the tube closely encased.

By making holes of a sufficient size in the plate, wherever you want to have an opening, you will be enabled there to pierce the caoutchouc without touching the metal, and thus to insert other tubes either formed in the same manner, or of glass, where circumstances admit of it.

By the same mode, the stalk of a piston may be entirely coated; and valves of any kind formed with the utmost facility.

Where a tube is wanted still to retain its elasticity, without danger of collapsing, the metal case may be omitted, and a spiral wire of a size suited for the occasion, substituted in its stead.

Where the tube is long so as that it might be difficult to withdraw it, if it be of a considerable size, a mould may be made of tallow, or wax, which can be dissolved by immersing the whole in hot water; by the same means may be formed irregular moulds which could not otherwise be withdrawn; or such moulds may be made of clay, which can be softened by means of water, and washed out.

Socks for the feet impenetrable by moisture, boots, &c.

In this way also might be formed socks, which if put above the stocking, would guard the feet more effectually from wet than even Mr Hand's leather itself. For this, by being only covered with a thin coating of it, will be soon worn off and be thus rendered unserviceable. These socks might, for such as chose it, be continued upwards upon the legs, by way of boots, so as to defend them also effectually from wet even when employed for wading in water up to the knees, or even in acids or other corrosive liquors. If these were brought up so as to go under the kneeband of the breeches; and if a slip of the same kind were made to go over the thighs above the breeches, a traveller on horseback would be effectually guarded from wet in all weathers. By the same contrivance the arms and shoulders might be covered with a coat without a seam, perfectly impenetrable by moisture. The head also might be defended by a hood of the same sort to go under the hat, with laps covering the neck and shoulders. In this manner might a man be covered all over as with a coat of mail, so as to be in no danger of receiving wet in any situation.

In this way might also be made gloves for the hands, especially of that sort where the fingers are all received into one bag. These would not only be convenient for travelling during rainy weather, but also for covering the hands of such persons as are under the necessity of handling corrosive liquors:

It would be tiresome to follow out this idea at greater length. It is enough to have barely hinted at it, as any man by a little reflection can easily perceive in what way this discovery might be employed for effecting any purpose he may have in view at the time.

But though this substance may be thus converted to some very useful purposes, yet it is sufficiently obvious

that all these manufactures must be both more clumsy, and much more expensive, than it could be formed from the fluid juice itself as it comes from the tree ; and as it now appears that the juice cannot be brought from South America without being decomposed, I cannot help once more recommending the culture of that tree nearer home to the attention of my countrymen. Were it introduced into our West India islands, the voyage from thence is so short that it might perhaps admit of being brought hither in a perfect state. But should that be still too far, it might be tried in the Azores or Canaries, or on the new settlements in Africa. I cannot conceive a fitter object for a high premium by the society of arts, than for the introduction of this tree into any British settlement. I mention *British* here, merely because it is not to be supposed the society would bestow a premium for introducing it into other European settlements. But it is perhaps of little importance to us where it shall be cultivated, if it is so near as to admit of the juice being brought hither while still in a perfect state.

For an account of the tree which produces this valuable juice, see Bee vol. 2. p. 101, where its leaves, fruit and flowers are accurately delineated.

TO THE READERS OF THE BEE.

THE Editor begs leave respectfully to inform his readers, that he has not as yet been able to find any portrait of Dr Cullen that satisfies him : but as an artist of very promising talents is now employed to make a bust of the Doctor to be put up in the college here, of which he has already made a model in clay that has every appearance of being a striking and a good resemblance, Dr Anderson has resolved to defer making his engraving till that shall be finished, when he hopes he will be enabled to give a more striking and characteristic portrait of that great man than he otherwise could have done.

*** Acknowledgements to correspondents deferred for want of room*

THE BEE,
OR
LITERARY WEEKLY INTELLIGENCER,

FOR
WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 30. 1793.

ORATION

TO THE MEMORY OF PETER THE GREAT, DELIVERED
BEFORE THE ACADEMY OF SCIENCES AT ST PETERS-
BURGH, ON THE 26 OF APRIL 1755, THE ANNIVERSA-
RY OF THE CORONATION OF THE EMPRESS ELIZA-
BETH, BY MICHAEL LOMONOSSOFF.

Translated from the Russian language.

J. Brown
Continued from p. 273.

AND now that our incomparable mistress has ex-
alted her paternal throne, typified in her birth, won
by her heroism, established by victorious coronati-
on, and ornamented by noble deeds; she is in justice
the true heiress of all his actions and all his praises.
If then we praise Peter, we praise Elizabeth.

The arts, long since, ought to have repr esented
his fame in vivid colours; they have long wished

in a triumphant assembly, to extol the incomparable deeds of their founder ; but knowing what great abilities are necessary to compose an adequate oration, they have hitherto been silent. For of this hero is to be related what is unheard of in others. His deeds are unequalled, and there exist no equal examples in eloquence, by imitating which, thought may safely plunge into their depth and multitude. At last however, it is deemed better to be found wanting in eloquence than destitute of gratitude ; better to declare sentiments ornamented with sincerity, and originating in zealous simplicity, than amid triumphant acclamations remain silent ; particularly, when the most high Lord of triumphs has exalted ours, by giving in the person of our young grand duke Paul Petrowitz*, a secure pledge of his divine favour, which we acknowledge in prolonging the posterity of Peter ; we are bound therefore, repressing timid doubts, and giving way to zealous boldness, to employ, or rather exhaust our whole force in the praise of our hero.

Having engaged in this undertaking, where shall I begin my discourse ? From his personal excellencies, from the superiority of his strength ? These appear in his arduous labours : labours innumerable. From his stature† and heroic countenance united with majestic beauty ? But besides many effigies that

* The present grand duke.

† Peter was about seven feet high.

represent his image lively to our memories, this is testified by whole cities and kingdoms, who, actuated by his fame, flocked to meet him, and to wonder at a face worthy of a great monarch, and characteristic of his great actions. Shall I take my beginning from the firmness of his spirit? But his unremitting watchfulness, without which it was impossible to have performed actions so great and so numerous, affords us a proof of this. I proceed then to an enumeration of them, well knowing it is easier to engage in the commencement than to attain the end; and, that this great man cannot be better praised than by him who shall distinctly and truly delineate his labours: if to delineate them be possible!

As much then as my ability and the shortness of time allowed will permit, I shall mention his more important labours, then represent the difficulties to be overcome in perfecting them; and in the end mark the virtues that in such undertakings sustained him.

This wise monarch foresaw that to execute his great plans, it was necessary to extend every kind of knowledge in his empire; and to increase the number of people skilled in the sciences, as well as to multiply artizans and tradesmen. His fatherly attention in this respect I formerly hinted at; which, were I to describe circumstantially, this subject alone would exceed the bounds of my discourse. Like the swift winged eagle, he flew round the European nations, and excited, partly by his commands, partly by his own powerful example, numbers of his subjects to relinquish for a while their native country, and

convince themselves, by experience how great advantages arise to the individual and community from a curious scrutiny of foreign countries. The wide gates of Russia were then thrown open: 'twas then that the sons of Russia, like the flux and reflux in the extensive ocean, departing to seek knowledge in the various sciences and arts, and returning loaded with experience, books, and foreign engines, flowed through her ports in unremitting motion. It was then that due respect, in the sacred person of Peter, clothed in purple and crowned with laurels, was paid to mathematical and physical knowledge, formerly reckoned witchcraft and necromancy*. What advantage of every kind was derived to us from the arts encircled with such rays of Majesty, is manifested by the plenteous profusion of varied convenience, of which, before the time of the great enlightener of Russia, our ancestors were not only deprived, but of which they had even no conception. How many useful articles, which were formerly brought into Russia with much difficulty, and at a great expence, are now made at home; and serve not only to obviate our own wants, but supply also the necessities of distant nations! The neighbouring nations vaunted formerly that Russia, an extensive and powerful kingdom, could neither make war, nor carry on trade without their assistance: that in itself it had

* Lomonosoff himself among his other acquirements was a great proficient in mathematical knowledge; on which subject he has left several treatises that are much esteemed.

not even iron* to repel an enemy ; far less other metals for coining money. This reflection vanished at the appearance of Peter. The bowels of the mountains are laid open by his powerful and industrious hand : metals teem from them, and distribute themselves, not only to the inhabitants, but are sent to strangers as restitutions of the loans received from them.* The hardy troops of Russia turn against their enemies, weapons dug by Russian hands from Russian mountains.

Of the establishment of a regular force, so necessary for the protection of the state, for the safety of the individual, and for the uninterrupted prosecution of grand designs at home ; of this establishment, I say, how great care had our great monarch, what anxious struggling, what attentive search after all means conducive to this end ! When at all this we cannot sufficiently wonder, how is it possible to express it in words ! The progenitor of our wise hero, that great prince Alexis Michaelowitz†, of blessed memory, amid many other famous actions, laid the foundation of a regular army : and the advantages obtained by its means in his fortunate campaigns in Poland ; and provinces recovered to the empire, sufficiently testify

* This is a very curious historical fact which hitherto had escaped my notice.

† Alexius was the son of Michæl Fæderowitz, under whose reign the Russians were first able to make head against the Poles, and thus to assume somewhat the appearance of an independent empire. Alexius was a good prince, made many good laws, and added to the prosperity of Russia. Theodore, who succeeded him, was the immediate predecessor of Peter.

how far he succeeded. But all his endeavours were extinguished with his life. Old irregularities returned; and the strength of the Russian army consisted more in its numbers than in its skill. How much it afterwards decayed is sufficiently shown by useless campaigns against the Turks and Tartars; but chiefly by the unbridled and destructive mutinies of the *Strelets*, originating in want of discipline. In such circumstances who could have conceived that a boy of twelve years old, debarred from government, and only protected from malice by the prudent care of a loving mother; amid uninterrupted terrors, amid pikes, amid swords drawn on his relations, on his friends, and on himself; should have begun to establish a regular force, the power of which his enemies soon after felt; felt and trembled; and at which all nations now wonder*; who could have

* Theodore, though a weak and effeminate prince, had the judgment to perceive that a vigorous mind was alone fitted to govern the kingdom of Russia in its then distracted state. He perceived symptoms of these active talents in the boy Peter, who was only his half brother, and therefore on his death bed recommended to his nobles to choose him for their sovereign, in preference to Iwan his own full brother. But his sister Sophia willing to exercise sovereign sway under the name of the simple Iwan, found means to place him upon the throne, and put to death all who were related to Peter, whose power she dreaded. The *Strelitzes*, a set of troops under no proper discipline, were the tools she employed on this occasion, whose power and insolence became so great as to throw the empire into the most dreadful distresses. To check these excesses, which exceeded her power, Sophia found it necessary to admit Peter an equal sharer to the throne with Iwan; but to strengthen her own power she determined to marry prince Gallitzin. Peter found means to counteract this plan, banished Gallitzin to Siberia, and confined Sophia herself to a monastery.

thought that from a boyish, as it seemed, amusement, such serious, such important consequences should have arisen? Many seeing a few young men with their young master, exercising themselves with diminutive arms, concluded that this was only an insignificant amusement; and therefore these new levies were named playfellows. Others possessed of more penetration, and remarking in his youthful countenance, a blooming heroic boldness, his eyes filled with acute intelligence, and in his actions, majestic activity, reflected how brave a hero, how great a monarch, Russia in him had to expect. But to levy many and numerous legions, foot and horse; to provide them with clothing, with pay, with arms, and with warlike necessaries; to teach them the use of arms, to establish field and besieging artillery, in which a great knowledge of geometry, mechanics, and chemistry is required; but above all, to furnish all the departments with experienced

He continued to reign jointly with Iwan, from 1689 to 1696, when, by the death of Iwan, Peter became sole monarch of Russia. It is to the struggles during this period the orator here alludes.

Even while his power was thus circumscribed, though his best friends were cut off, and his education was studiously neglected by the arts of Sophia; even in these circumstances, at that very tender age, he laid the plan of overturning the power of the Strelitzes, who like the Pretorian bands at Rome, or the Janisaries in Turkey, did nearly whatever they pleased in Russia. With that view he selected a number of the most promising youth nearly of his own age, and formed a mock army of these to go through the exercise with them, like boys in sport, which was taught to them by foreigners who were acquainted with the regular military discipline in other parts of Europe. Thus was formed the rudiments of that army which soon after crushed the Strelitzes, and became so formidable to others.

commanders; to execute all this, seemed in reality an impossibility, because the want and deprivation of power in the sovereign had extinguished the last hope and probability: what then was the consequence? Beyond the public expectation, in opposition to the disbelief of those who had lost hope, and in spite of the intrigues and murmurs of malice itself, the new legions of Peter unexpectedly marched and excited in the faithful sons of Russia joyful hope; in the discontented, terror, and in both astonishment. Impossibilities become possible by extraordinary assiduity, and above all by unheard of example. The senate of Rome, when beholding Trajan standing before the consul for the acceptance of this dignity, exclaimed, "By this you are greater, by this you are more majestic," What exclamations, what clapping of hands are due to Peter the Great for his unaffected condescension. Our fathers saw; they saw their crowned sovereign, not amongst the number of candidates for the consulate of Rome; but amidst his fellow soldiers: not demanding honours of the Romans; but conducting the exercises of his own subjects. You beautiful plains you happy fields, which beheld so wonderful a spectacle! O how you enjoyed the friendly enmity of legions trained by a sovereign, conducting and subordinate; commanding and obedient! O how you wondered at sieges, defences, and surrenders of embattlements, not undertaken for present profit, but for future glory; not for the subjection of the rebellious, but for the encouragement of friends. We, reflecting on past years, represent to ourselves the love and

ardent zeal with which the incipient army was attached to their sovereign, when they beheld him in their own ranks, at the same table, partaking of the common fare ; when they saw his face covered with the same sweat and dust ; when they saw that he differed in nothing, except that in exercise he was the most assiduous, the most expert. By such extraordinary example, keeping pace with his subjects in promotion, this wise sovereign demonstrated, that monarchs can in no way so much advance their own majesty, the glory, and height of their own dignity, as by similar condescension.* The Russian army grew strong by this encouragement, and in a twelve years war with the crown of Sweden, as well as afterwards in many other expeditions, filled the ends of the universe with the victorious thunder of its arms. True the first engagement at Narva was unsuccessful ; but the superiority of the enemy, and retreat of the Russians, have, from malice and pride, to increase their glory, and magnify our defeat, been much exaggerated beyond the truth. The Russian troops were only of two years standing : the enemy disciplined and in-

* In every transaction of Peter's life, when nearly examined, we discover the amazing stretch of that man's mind. Before his time it was reckoned an indelible disgrace for any man in Russia to serve in the army under a man whose father had occupied a lower military rank than the father of the person whom he was to command. This was an insuperable bar to military discipline and a regular army. Peter saw at once that the only effectual way to do away all this, was to go into the army himself in the lowest station, and to obey with due submission every officer who was placed above him ; as, what he did, no other person could think was dishonourable. Thus did he at once, by a noble self command, abolish a custom that no law however severe could have abrogated without the most violent struggles.

nured to war. Although dissension took place among our commanders, and a cunning spy communicated to the enemy all the circumstances of our camp ; and although Charles xii. by an unexpected attack, prevented our army from being put in order of battle ; however on retreating, the boldness of the enemy was so far checked as to disable them to continue the action and pursue the victory. The Russian guards and no small part of the other troops remained in good order ; and it was only for want of their leaders, whom Charles having called to treat of peace, had detained prisoners, that they were withheld from falling on the enemy. The guards therefore and the rest of the army with their arms and baggage, colours flying and drums beating, returned into Russia. That this defeat proceeded more from these unfortunate circumstances, than from want of skill in the troops of Russia ; and that the army of Peter even in its infancy was able to beat the veteran troops of his enemies, was fully proved the following summer, by many signal victories*.

To be continued.

† The Orator goes here farther than Peter himself is known to have done, for it is well known that great man used to console himself after a defeat by observing that there was no reason to be discouraged, for that by every defeat they acquired additional military skill, so that by perseverance their enemies in time would teach the Russians to beat themselves ; and this in fact he effected.

ON THE DELAYS INCIDENT TO THE COURT
OF SESSION.

Continued from p. 283.

Mr. Hume
To the Lord President of the Court of Session.

LETTER VI.

MY LORD,

MANY people imagine it is in the power of the judge, if he chuses, to give a speedy decision ; and many more think the practitioners could procure an immediate judgement, if it were not their interest to protract the suit, and keep it long depending in court. This, however, is like the notion of the negroes, that monkeys could speak if they inclined, and that they only observe silence in order to avoid being obliged to work.

To finish a law-suit soon, would contribute much to the ease and comfort of the judge ; and, contrary to the received opinion, it would also tend to the profit of the practitioners, as giving life and spirit to business, and much encouraging the number of suits. But upon the present footing of things, all the efforts of a party, joined with the concurrence of an attentive and discerning judge, cannot prevent delays. Nay, farther, the ripe and proper decision of a cause is in its nature a matter that requires a good deal of time ; and of course a law-suit must be tedious after all the change that can well be ventured on, or ought to be

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made, of the present forms of procedure. But much valuable time and money may surely be saved by such alterations as shall be previously examined by your Lordship, and sanctioned by your knowledge and penetration.

In a *state of interests and order of ranking*, there may perhaps be objections made against 6, 8, 10, 12, or more of the interests produced for the creditors; for the common agent thinks it his duty to notice every defect that he can discover. It is in vain to think that all these objections can be answered thro' the medium of as many different agents, in the course of a fortnight.

But if each objection were separately stated, they could all be answered in that space; and by the simple operation of printing the *state and order*, the matter would be accomplished at once, at the additional expence of a few pounds; as by that means each creditor, or his doer, could have full access to the state for the whole of the time. And it would only farther be necessary, that the common agent should keep each reply separate, so as each creditor might take up to the one relating to his own case, when he had occasion to *represent* to the Lord Ordinary, or to *reclaim* to the court.

The very same means would empower such of the other creditors as chose to object against the *state and order*, to do so within the same space of time. And by this simple regulation of making each objection a separate question, much time and interference would be saved. The clerks and their assistants would naturally fall into the practice of not lending up any

more of the process to each agent than the *interest* of his own employer. Or, if necessary, a regulation would be made, that the rest of the process should remain in the clerk's hands, to be inspected there, during the time of making answers and duplies.

After all the objections are adjusted, there is often time lost in preparing the *scheme of division*. Such is the tedious nature of a process of ranking and sale, that the common agent does not always continue equally anxious to push it on to a conclusion. Weeks, or even months, may sometimes pass before a remit is obtained to an accountant to prepare the scheme; and when it is obtained, it does not limit a time within which the scheme must be made up and produced.

A new fee to the clerks of court, of so much *per cent.* is rather an extraordinary remedy, and not to be often resorted to; yet I must own that no other effectual regulation presents itself in the present instance, for compelling the common agent to apply for and obtain the necessary *remit*, and the accountant employed by him to make up and produce the *scheme*, within such precise time as may be deemed reasonable; and one space of time (suppose a month or six weeks), may safely be fixed, in all such cases; for a few days more will serve for framing and calculating a *long* scheme, than would serve for a short one.

I am, &c.

LENTULUS.

CONSIDERATIONS, ON THE IMPROVEMENT OF THE
MANUFACTURE OF WOOL IN GREAT BRITAIN.

Written a few years ago.

J. Dempster
For the Bee.

THE advantages that have accrued to these kingdoms, from the introduction of large machines for spinning cotton, are so numerous and so conspicuous, as to render any encomiums on such machines unnecessary; yet it may be proper to mention one or two circumstances, that have not been generally attended to: they have served to convince the public of what vast service the use of machines is, in carrying on great works, and have fully demonstrated the futility of every argument, adduced with a design to show that they tend to diminish the number of hands employed in any manufacture, or lessen the profits of the industrious labourer: If any one yet retains such an opinion, let him examine the counties of Lancaster, Cheshire, Derby, Nottingham &c. where such machines have been most generally established, and he will find his suspicions totally without foundation; the number of hands employed in the cotton works being increased beyond credibility, and the earnings of the industrious, both men and women, raised much higher than they used to be.

These are facts which admit not of dispute; and if the spinning cotton by engines on a large scale, has

been productive of such general good, how much more benefit will arise from the preparing and spinning wool by a like method ! I shall endeavour to point out some of those advantages, leaving the reader's mind to furnish many others, which the space I allow myself will not permit me to enlarge upon.

1. Cotton being an article of foreign growth, may be imported by any other commercial nation, as the French, Spaniards, &c. in any quantity required, whenever they shall have introduced such machines as have been already used in England ; and that attempts to obtain and introduce them into foreign countries have been made, is well known ; but wool, which is peculiarly the growth of this country, and considered the staple commodity of it, can hardly be worked to advantage elsewhere, if, by increasing the consumption of it in our own manufactures, a stop is put to the practice of smuggling it into other countries, by which illicit practice only, foreigners have been enabled to undersell us in distant markets.

2. The land holder would be greatly benefitted by the introduction of large machines in the manufacture of wool ; for as the demand for that article may reasonably be expected to increase as much, at least, as that for cotton has done, the breeding of sheep will increase, and the value of land rise in the same proportion. The whole nation will indeed be benefitted in a mode distinct from the enlargement of its commerce ; for from the quantity of sheep bred, provisions will be lowered, and from the cheapness at which all woollen goods may be manufactured, they will

be brought at lower rates to market. Thus every individual in this country will find the advantage resulting to the whole kingdom, from such a wise and truly politic measure.

The laudable attention which the society instituted at London for the encouragement of arts, has constantly paid to the promoting the manufactures of these kingdoms, deserves the highest commendation, and has been attended with the most beneficial effects. Happy would it be, if that society were in such circumstances, as to enable them to offer a premium of sufficient value, to stimulate the ingenious mechanics of this country, to perfect a machine equally well adapted to the preparing and spinning wool, as those in use in the cotton works are to the preparing and spinning that article; but whoever shall be fortunate enough to complete such an engine, will richly merit a reward far beyond the abilities of the society to grant.

After having considered various modes of raising a sufficient sum of money to reward the person who shall produce such a machine as will effectually answer the intention required, I beg leave to suggest the expedient of an adequate premium being offered for it by parliament, as was formerly done for the discovery of the longitude, or any other manner as to their wisdom shall seem more proper; and as there is every reason to believe, that the first hint of machines for spinning a number of threads of wool, cotton, &c. by one hand, at one time, originated with the society for encouragement of arts, see the first volume of their transactions page 33. it

may be presumed if that body, assisted by the advice of other able mechanics, were to superintend the working such machines as may be produced, till their merits were fully ascertained, and the comparative excellence of one over the others, decidedly proved; it is, I say, to be presumed, under such circumstances, this most desirable end, might, in the compass of a few years, be obtained, to the universal benefit of this country. The parliament have already bestowed rewards on ingenious persons for their discoveries; but no object hitherto brought before them, whether considered with respect to magnitude or utility, has been in any degree comparable with this now mentioned; the reward therefore should be proportioned accordingly: and if it succeeds, there is not a doubt but the staple trade of these kingdoms, will receive from it such benefit, as will eternize the memory of those who proposed it, or in any degree contributed to the bringing it to perfection*.

D. G.

* The great object pointed at in the above disquisition is now accomplished. A machine for spinning wool is now going in Edinburgh, and performs its work much better, than it ever could be done by hand.

Add to this that the society instituted of late for the improvement of British wool, by turning the attention of the nation to this important branch of economics, promises to effect the happiest improvements. When this society first hinted that as fine wool might be reared in Scotland as in Spain, some manufacturers in the south of England sneered at the proposal. The fact is now ascertained *experimentally* beyond a doubt; and I have just now in my possession as fine wool of the short Spanish sort reared in Scotland, as perhaps any that ever came out of Spain. The only perceptible difference in the quality of this wool

READING MEMORANDUMS.

In the course of human life, weakness will always happen.

" From Malborough's eyes the streams of dotage flow,
" And Swift expires a driveller and a show."

There is certainly more virtue in discharging very burdensome and painful duties with the strictest fidelity, than in merely acting from the impulse of an ardent affection.

Jealousy, of all the passions baneful to the peace of mortals, is the hardest to conquer, and its effects the most difficult to be eradicated. With jealousy no peace can dwell, or joy inhabit. In every part of the globe, it is, to its unfortunate victims, the grand enemy of happiness.

from the Spanish is, that it seems to be softer to the touch : whether this be only accidental, a little time will show. Other advantages that will result from the institution of this society will be developed from time to time in this work.

The only thing now wanted to render this improvement of general utility, is to adopt some plan by which work-men may be instructed in the manner of working and taking care of this machinery, so as to enable those who may encline to begin in various parts of the country, to find persons qualified to direct them, and instruct others in the different branches of the business. A plan of this sort we understand has lately been laid before the honourable trustees for improving arts, manufactures, and fisheries in Scotland. And, as few objects can be more deserving the attention of the board than this is, it can scarcely be doubted, but they will consider it with attention, and bestow upon it that encouragement which it shall be found to deserve.

Edit.

POETRY.

SIR, *To the Editor of the Bee.*

The following lines were written by the late worthy Gilbert White, brother to Mr White the eminent bookseller, and author of the natural history and antiquities of Selborne, in the county of Southampton.

ON THE DARK, STILL, DRY, WARM WEATHER OCCASIONALLY HAPPENING IN THE WINTER AND SPRING MONTHS.

For the Bee.

Th' imprison'd winds slumber within their caves
Fast bound : the sickle vane, emblem of change,
Wavers no more ; long settling to a point.
All nature nodding seems compos'd : thick steams
From land, from flood updrawn, dimming the day,
" Like a dark ceiling stand : " slow through the air
Gossamer floats, or stretch'd from blade to blade
The wavy network whitens all the field.
Push'd by the weightier atmosphere, upsprings
The pond'rous Mercury, from scale to scale
Mounting, along the Torricellian tube :
While high in air, and pois'd upon his wings
Unseen, the soft enamour'd wood-lark runs
Through all his maze of melody ; the brake
Loud with the blackbird's bolder note resounds.
—Sooth'd by the genial warmth, the cawing rook
Anticipates the spring, selects her mate,
Haunts her tall nest-trees, and with sedulous care
Repairs her wicker eyrie, tempest-torn.
The ploughman inly smiles to see upturn
His mellow glebe, best pledge of future crop :
With glee the gardner eyes his smoking beds :
Ev'n pining sickness feels a short relief.
The happy school-boy brings transported forth
His long forgotten scourge and giddy gig :
O'er the white paths he whirls the rolling hoop,
Or triumphs in the dusty fields of Taw.
Not so the thoughtful sage. Abroad he walks
Contemplative ; if haply he may find
What cause controuls the tempest's rage, or whence
Amidst the savage season winter smiles.—
For days, for weeks, prevails the placid calm.
At length some drops prelude a change : the sun
With ray refracted bursts the parting gloom ;
When all the chequer'd sky is one bright glare.
With angry aspect scowls ; down rush the showers
And float the delug'd path's and miry fields.

SIR, *To the Editor of the Bee.*

The following stanzas written by Thomson on the blank leaf of a copy of his seasons were sent by him to the good lord Lyttelton soon after the death of his Lucy.

Go little book, and find our friend,
Who nature and the muses loves ;
Whose cares the public virtues blend
With all the softness of the groves.

A fitter time thou canst not chuse
His fostering friendship to repay ;
Go then, and try, my rural muse,
To steal his widow'd hours away.

SIR, *To the Editor of the Bee.*

The following lines found in a blank leaf of that copy of the *Man of Feeling* which belonged to Mr Granger, author of the *Biographical History of England*, it is believed were never in print. If you think them deserving a place in the *Bee*, they are much at your service

W.

TO THE AUTHOR OF THE MAN OF FEELING.

WHILST other writers with pernicious art,
Corrupt the morals, and seduce the heart ;
Raise lawless passions, loose desires infuse,
And boast their knowledge gathered from the stews.
Be thine the task, such wishes to controul,
To touch the gentler movements of the soul ;
To bid the breast with generous ardours glow,
To teach the tear of sympathy to flow ;
We hope, we fear, we swell with virtuous rage
As various passions animate the page.
What sentiments the soul of Harley move ?
The softest piety the purest love ;
Congenial virtues dwell in Walton's mind,
Form'd her mild graces, and her taste refin'd.
Their flame was such as heaven itself inspires,
As high, as secret as the vestal fires ;
But ah ! too late revealed ;—with parting breath,
He owns its mighty force, and smiles in death.
His soul spontaneous seeks her kindred sky,
Where charity and love can never die.

A SINGULAR ADVENTURE WRITTEN BY M—— TO ONE OF

translated HIS FRIENDS. *from the french.*

I am going, dear friend, to intrust you with a dreadful secret, which I can tell no body but you. The marriage of Mademoiselle de Vildac with the young Sainville took place yesterday; as a neighbour I was obliged to be there. You know M. de Vildac; he has an inauspicious physiognomy which I always feared. I observed him yesterday in the midst of all these festivals: far from taking a share in the happiness of his son-in-law and daughter, the joy of the rest seemed to be a load to him. When it was time to retire, I was conducted to an apartment at the foot of the great tower. I had scarcely fallen asleep when I was awaked by an indistinct noise behind my head. I listened, and heard some body dragging chains, and who was descending softly some steps. At the same time a door of my chamber opened: the noise of chains, redoubled. He who carried them advanced towards the chimney; he approached some coals half extinguished, and said in a deadly voice, "Ah! how long it is since I have warmed myself!" I confess to you my friend I was affrighted. I seized my sword to be able to defend myself: I opened gently my curtains. By the light which the coals gave, I perceived an old man chained, and half naked, with a bald head and a white beard. He held his trembling hands to the cinders. That sight moved me. Whilst I was considering it, the wood produced a flame: he had his eyes turned towards the door by which he had entered, and was abandoning himself to the most bitter lamentations. In a moment he kneeled down upon his knees, struck his head against the floor; and I heard him in the midst of

sobs to utter, "My God! O my God!" At that moment the curtains of the bed made a noise; he turned round with the greatest terror: "Is there any person, said he, is there any person in that bed?" "Yes, replied I, at the same time opening the curtains wide, but who are you?" His tears hindered him from answering me for a considerable time; at length he became more calm. "I am, said he, the most miserable of mortals. Perhaps I ought not to tell you more; but for these many years I have not seen a human being, and the pleasure of speaking to a fellow creature opens my mouth. Fear nothing: come and sit down beside the fire. Have pity upon me; you will soften the rigour of my fate in hearing my misfortunes." The fright which his first appearance had put me in, gave place to compassion. I arose and sat down beside him; this mark of confidence gave him courage. He took hold of my hand and moistened it with his tears. "Generous man, said he, begin first by satisfying my curiosity, tell me how you came to lodge in this apartment, which has hitherto been uninhabited; what means that terrible din and unusual bustle which I heard this morning in the castle?" When I told him it was occasioned by the marriage of Vildac's daughter, he raised his hand towards heaven, "Vildac a daughter and married - - - Just God! O make her happy! but above all allow her to be ignorant of her father's crimes. Know then, benevolent stranger who I am - - - You speak to the father of Vildac - - - of the cruel Vildac.—But ought I to complain of him? Is there no one but a father to accuse him."

"What, cried I with astonishment, is Vildac your son; and does the monster imprison you here in such misery, load you with chains, and seclude you so long from the world?"

"Behold, replied he, in my sufferings, the fatal effects of self interestedness. Feeling is an utter stranger in the hard and savage heart of my son. Insensible to the ties of kindred, he has lent a deaf ear to the cry of nature : in order to be the sooner in possession of my fortune he has loaded me with iron.

"One day he paid a visit to a neighbouring lord who had lately lost his father ; he found him surrounded with his vassals, busied in receiving rents and in granting leases. That sight had a dreadful effect upon the mind of Vildac. The thirst for receiving his patrimony had been devouring him for a long time past. I remarked at his return that he had a graver and more reserved countenance than usual. Fifteen days after, three men in masks carried me off during the night. After having stripped me of every thing, they took me into this tower. I am ignorant of what means Vildac took to publish the report of my death ; but I guessed by the ringing of bells and other mournful ceremonies, that he was celebrating my funeral. The idea of this ceremony plunged me into a most profound melancholy. I in vain asked, as a favour, to be permitted to speak with Vildac : those who brought me food, looked upon me, no doubt, as a criminal condemned to perish in this tower. I have now been here almost twenty years. I perceived, this morning, that in bringing me my morsel, they had shut my door carelessly. I have waited till night to profit by their negligence ; I do not wish to make my escape, but a few paces of more liberty is always some consideration for a prisoner."

'No, cried I, you shall quit this unworthy mansion: Heaven has sent me to be your deliverer :—let us depart immediately : all is in silence. I shall be your defender, your support, and your guide.' "Ah, said he to me, after

a moment's reflection, this kind of solitude has much altered my principles and my ideas. I have long ago resigned myself to my fate; why should I then quit this peaceful abode, to expose myself again to the vicissitudes of the world?—My lot is cast: I shall die here."

'Are you dreaming, replied I: come, we have not a moment to lose; the night is advancing.'

"Your zeal moves me: but I have only a few days to live; and liberty gives me but little temptation. Why should I go to enjoy it only for a few days, and dishonour my son all the rest of his life, which may otherwise be long and prosperous?" 'He has dishonoured himself.' "Ah! what has his young daughter done? that young innocent is now in the arms of her spouse. I should cover both with disgrace, and render the remainder of their lives miserable; Ah, if fate but permitted me to see her, to fold her in my arms, and to bathe her with my tears!—But I am talking to no purpose. I never shall see her! Adieu:—the day begins to break, we shall be heard, therefore I will return to my prison." - - - 'No, said I, taking hold of his arm, I will never suffer you to depart; long confinement has weakened your spirits - - - it is my duty to give you courage, and lend you assistance. We will endeavour to conceal who you are: in the interim my house, name, and fortune are at your service; but first let us secure liberty. The world will be ignorant who you are; and the crime of Vildac may be concealed; therefore what have you to fear?' "Nothing, I am affected with gratitude:—I admire your benevolent disposition; yet all your entreaties are in vain,—I cannot follow your advice." 'Well, if you rather choose that I should leave you here, and go to the governor of the province, I will lay before him your

whole story, come with an armed force and retrieve you from the hands of your barbarous and unnatural son.'

"Take care that you do not reveal my secret, allow a wretch to die here who is unworthy of seeing the day light;—I once committed a crime which just heaven has ordained that I should expiate; the most horrid, most inhuman deed. - - - Turn your eyes towards that door, and behold upon the wainscoat and upon the wall, faint traces of blood. That blood was once my father's; you see before you his assassin: Like Vildac my ungovernable ambition overcame me. - - - Ah, my imagination still paints him before my eyes - - there he stretched out his bloody arms towards me; he wished to stop my polluted hands; he falls, oh frightful image, oh despair."

At the same time the old man fell down upon the ground, tore his hair, and was in dreadful convulsions; I saw he dared not to look me in the face; I remained motionless for a while. After some moments of silence we thought we heard a noise. The day began to break; he arose. "You are penetrated with horror, said he, adieu. I shall go up to the tower, from whence I shall never more return." I remained for a while mute and motionless: every thing I had seen and heard in this castle impressed my mind with horror - - - therefore the sooner I left it the better. I am preparing to go and stay in another of my estates, for I can neither see Vildac nor live near him. O, my friend, how is it possible that the human race can produce such unnatural monsters.

This adventure happened in Provence towards the beginning of this century; before it was printed it was found necessary to disguise the names.

As many young gentlemen are just now about to sail for India, the following directions are inserted at this time.

A MEMORANDUM given by Dr Walker, professor of natural history, Edinburgh, to a young gentleman going to India, with some additions.

1. To be provided with a good Fahrenheit's thermometer, inclosed in a glass tube, that can be laid in water, for taking the heat of the sea in different latitudes, and especially for taking the heat of springs in India wherever you can meet with them.

2. To be careful to pick up at sea; all sea weeds and marine animals that come within reach of the ship, and to dry and preserve them in paper or otherwise.

3. To be attentive to all birds that are to be seen from the ship; to mark the English or other names by which they are known among the sailors, and the latitudes where they first appear and disappear.

4. To keep a regular journal from day to day, including the above, and all other observations in natural history that may occur,—particularly any remarkable appearances in the weather, respecting the winds, rains, thunder and lightning, calms, tornadoes, whirlwinds, or waterspouts.

5. To notice the alterations in the colour of the sea, and if possible the causes from whence they proceed; especially the colour proceeding from minute animals, with a description of these animals.

6. On approaching the Cape of Good Hope, the Cape pigeons, or pintado birds, are numerous: it would be worth while, if opportunity offers, to preserve one or two of them by stuffing their skins, and to mark at what di-

stance from the Cape they are first seen, and when they first disappear.

7. The head, jaws, or teeth, of the different species of sharks that may be caught upon the voyage to be preserved :

8. Also the different flying fishes.

9. It is much to be wished, that one of the small fishes which always accompany the blue shark, called the pilot-fish, might be caught and preserved.

10. Wherever the cable or sounding line is used, it should be carefully examined when hove into the ship, as there are frequently found curious animals adhering to both.

11. Between the Cape and Madagascar, and in other parts of the India voyage, various sea-animals can be easily taken on board, such as what the sailors call Portuguese men of war, and others, to be preserved, if possible, in paper or in spirits.

12. If the ship touches either at Madagascar or the island of Johanna, there are many curious fossils, plants, and animals which may be preserved.

13. At Bombay many interesting articles may be obtained, which are there articles of commerce from Surat and the Gulph of Persia :—Drugs, the different gums and resins, the largest pearl oysters, or mother of pearl, and tortoise shells : the sandalum album, or white sandal wood, and ebony : the fine red Persian ochre, called at Bombay *Indian red* : the skins of the zebra, Persian lamb-skins, jackall, leopard, panthers, and other Asiatic quadrupeds ; also the horns, and if possible the heads, of the different antelopes and gazelles.

14. At Bombay, Madras, and Calcutta, to collect specimens of every fossil even of the most common, that come within reach. To visit often the shops of the lapi-

daries, where all the finest lethidia, chalcodony, cornelian, onyx, sardonyx, a_ate, mocho, &c. are cut in great quantities, and sold very cheap.

15. To inquire at Madras concerning the new cochineal discovered by D. Anderson, and to preserve and send home, the species of grafts on which it feeds.

16. At Calcutta to preserve good specimens with the flower, of all the important plants of the country, and as much of their history as possible.

17. To be attentive especially to all the productions of China which may be brought there, whether fossil, vegetable, or animal.

18. To collect at Calcutta, shells; corals, corallines, sponges, and other fine marine productions which are brought there from all parts of India.

19. To collect all the fine insects, wherever they occur. Fine collections are to be purchased at an easy rate. I should particularly recommend preserving them in paper books, in preference to preserving them loose, or upon pins. The fresh insect may be placed in folds of paper, and pressed for a day or two with a sufficient weight, when they will be dry and sufficiently prepared; even those which have been preserved on pins, when put for two minutes in spirits, may then be pressed and dried in the same manner.

20. To inquire particularly at Calcutta concerning the great quadruped, called by the English, a bufalo, but by the natives the arnee*. It does not come lower upon the Ganges, than about the plain of Plassey. It is said to be about fourteen feet high, and is a superb animal, whose

* See an account of this animal Bee vol. xii. p. 193.

1793. *memorial of the E. of Galloway on salt duties.* 333
 history is as yet unknown in Europe. As also every
 particular that can be learned concerning the chittigong
 cows, whose tails are used as fly flaps in India

21. To pick up as often as you can find them, skins
 of all quadrupeds, especially those animals noted for any
 valuable peculiarity; being very careful to mark down
 as many particulars respecting their natural history as
 you can learn, and the uses that are made of them in
 economy or arts. These skins if dried, and laid back to
 back with some ground pepper between them, and a few
 small grains of camphor, may be easily brought safe
 to Europe.

ADDITION TO THE MEMORIAL ON THE SALT DUTIES
 BY THE E. OF GALLOWAY &c.

J. A.
 omitted in our last, from p. 299.

FROM the foregoing state of facts it, appears that the
 duty, payable to the revenue on a barrel of beef or pork
 in England, is, at the present time,

For one bushel of home-made salt, £. 0 5 0

One-half ditto of foreign salt, 0 5 2

Total, — 0 10 2

On a barrel of Irish beef or pork:

Internal duty on home-made salt £. 0 0 0

On $\frac{1}{2}$ bushel of foreign salt, at 4^d.

per bushel, — — 0 0 2 $\frac{1}{2}$

Total, — 0 0 2 $\frac{1}{2}$

Difference, — — £. 0 9 11 $\frac{1}{2}$

334 *memorial of the E. of Galloway on salt duties. Oct. 30*
if for home-consumption, in both countries, or for ship
provisions, no duty or drawback being allowed on
them.

Irish beef, if brought to England, pays a duty of one
shilling *per* barrel on exportation in Ireland; and, say,
one shilling more for freight: At that rate, a barrel of I-
rish beef can be afforded in England, 7s. 11d. cheaper than
a barrel of British cured beef—the prime cost of the meat
being supposed the same.

A British barrel of beef contains 32 gallons; an Irish
barrel only 28: therefore, if equally well packed, the Bri-
tish barrel will contain 28 lib. more than the Irish barrel;
which, at 3d. *per* lib. is 7s. An Irish barrel of beef,
therefore, may be afforded for ships provisions, at the rate
of 16s. 11½d. cheaper than an English barrel of ditto, sup-
posing the fresh meat had cost in both cases threepence
per pound.

Irish beef imported into Britain, pays no duty to the
British revenue; but a barrel of British ditto pays 10s.
2d. And as there remains in the barrel, about half-a bushel
of salt after the beef is taken out, which is good for culi-
nary purposes, the duty on which would be at least 2s. 6d.
The British revenue, at this rate, loses 12s. 8d. for every
barrel of Irish beef and pork imported into Britain, or
consumed in ships provisions, which it would have drawn
if British salt-meat had been used in its stead. We thus
may be said to have given a bounty of 12s. 8d. on every
barrel of Irish beef consumed by British subjects, with a
view to give them a monopoly of this branch of trade a-
gainst ourselves.

It has been shown (page 214) that about 156,000 bar-
rels of Irish beef and pork are annually consumed in Bri-
tain; and, computing ships provisions to equal that, it

would be 312,000 barels *per annum*; the bounty of which amounts, at the above rate, to 197,600l. *per annum*: What good reason can be assigned, why Britain should sacrifice so much for repressing her own agriculture and manufactures?

INDEX INDICATORIUS.

T. K. sends a pretty elaborate essay on education, which our room did not permit us to insert. Among other particulars he observes, that "A man without education is like a watch without wheels, for it is impossible he can fill any station of life without it." And again, "How does an ignorant person look in a learned company? He looks like a fool without either sense or judgement; for he does not know what they are speaking about, &c." I know few words the meaning of which are less generally understood in Scotland than *EDUCATION*. In general it seems to be applied, as here, to what is commonly called *learning*, which in its turn is almost as much wrested from its original meaning, and is now almost exclusively applied to the acquisition of foreign languages, a thing which in itself, deserves not the name of learning; but is merely a scaffolding by means of which knowledge may be attained.

Were I to give a definition of learning, I should call it the *acquisition of knowledge*; and were I to specify what *education* should perform, it would be to put a person in the right train of acquiring *useful knowledge*. In that sense the acquisition of language may have its share. But much *useful knowledge* may be attained without that: by consequence a man may have obtained a *very good education* without having been taught any other language than his mother tongue. A man of sense never will look like a fool, unless when he departs from his real character, and attempts to assume another, and then he does not look like a fool only, but actually is a fool in that instance. No one will ever be blamed by persons of common sense for not knowing things that his situation in life and circumstances did not put within his reach; but he may be blamed for acting foolishly if he attempts to learn what his circumstances do not put within his reach, and what if he had attained, by having deprived him of the means of earning a proper subsistence, has rendered him a dependent, and consequently a mean and despicable animal. How many men may be found in Scotland who have got what fools call a good education, who have been thus

totally deprived of the means of earning a suitable subsistence, and rendered miserable through life, who, if they had acquired a proper education, that is to say, had been instructed in a business suited to their station and circumstances, might have acted a becoming part in life, and been very useful members of society.

TO THE READERS OF THE BEE.

Peru.

THE Editor has a rare opportunity of receiving intelligence from PERU, by means of a literary gentleman going thither at present; and after a short stay there, to return hither, by whose means authentic information may be received relating to interesting objects in that country. The Editor intends to make up a memorial specifying particularly, such objects there, as occur to himself that are only imperfectly known here, and require farther elucidation; and will be glad to insert in it such farther particulars as may appear interesting to his readers. Any hints that shall be transmitted to him in two weeks from this date, *post paid*, shall be duly attended to.

Botany Bay.

He has a similar opportunity to Botany Bay. Hints for that quarter of the world, also shall have all necessary attention paid to them.

Nookta Sound.

A similar opportunity occurs also to Nookta Sound at the present time, by the favour of a gentleman who has made botany and natural history, a particular study; so that any memorandums on these subjects will have a good chance of procuring satisfactory elucidations.

Bengal, Madras, China, &c.

As the East India ships are soon to sail from Britain, he can have opportunity of receiving elucidations respecting any particular object that may be peculiarly interesting to particular readers from almost any European settlement in those quarters, and will be glad to lend his aid in forwarding such memoirs or queries as they shall think proper to transmit to him. But he requests that these queries may rather respect particular objects that are already in part known, than general questions, which seldom he finds lead to any active research.

*** To those readers of the Bee, by whose encouragement and punctual payments, the Editor has been enabled to carry on the work, his best thanks are due. But to others who seem to forget that an extensive circulation, without punctual returns at short periods, is only a source of embarrassment, instead of profit, he must take this opportunity of once more reminding them that the price of the work was put very low entirely on the faith of having regular returns, and that both in justice to himself, and his other readers, he will be put under the painful necessity of charging the price to them at a higher rate, as formerly advertised, which he hopes they will prevent by a more punctual attention to this trifling matter, as it must be to them.

HISTORICAL CHRONICLE.

WEDNESDAY SEPTEMBER 25.

FOREIGN.

Retrospective view of the political state of France.

ALL the governments which sprung up in Europe on the downfall of the Roman empire, were founded on the model of an army. The chief, under whatever name he was known, with the advice of his council; in other words, the general in a council of war, on extraordinary occasions were vested with unlimited authority; and on ordinary occasions the authority of the chief was undisputed. The great body of the *people* were bound implicitly to obey. When the men were put into cantonments, as we may say, during peace, and thus withdrawn from the immediate power of the chief, each chieftain exercised unlimited authority over those of the district where he presided. By degrees, as a change of circumstances took place in the progress of society, this system of government also suffered a change. Universally, the *people*, properly so called, acquired more power,—their persons and property were better secured, and their exertions of industry respected. In England, this progress, from a peculiarity of circumstances, was greater than in any other country; which has given rise, by slow degrees, to that constitution of government which is so justly and universally admired. In France the *people* had not been so effectually secured from the power of the chieftains. But for near two hundred years past, the privileges of the *people* had been gradually becoming more and more respected, and their industry encouraged. Under Colbert, and several other ministers, the importance of the industry of the *people*, and the good policy of encouraging them, were well understood.

The greatest bar the monarchs felt in their attempts to encourage industry, was the great power and privileges of the *grandees*; and various were the devices adopted to moderate that power: but of late the most efficacious was thought to be the dread of the *bastille*, and *lettres de cachet*, which gave to the prince a summary power of checking them when he pleased. This, to them, was therefore an object of dread, and just apprehension. The late unfortunate monarch, had the interest and happiness of his *people* more at heart than perhaps any other monarch that ever sat upon that throne, H. IV alone excepted; but his indolence of disposition did not allow him to take those decisive measures which were best calculated to effect his purposes. That beneficent disposition made him choose a minister who was obnoxious to his nobles, because a stranger and a plebeian, which excited secret

disgusts, of the consequences of which he was not aware. Mr Necker, a good man, and a great arithmetician, but in regard to knowledge of the grand springs of political actions, perhaps one of the weakest of men, felt that great obstructions arose to his views of augmenting the prosperity of the people, from certain local stipulations that had been made with the inhabitants of particular provinces, when they were annexed to the crown. These privileges had been always respected by the prince, and could not with safety be infringed; but they had given rise to many political abuses, which he saw no possible way of removing. Artful men, who knew his weak side, suggested the idea of calling a meeting of the STATES. That minister, believing that the beneficence of the proposals he should make would be so universally recognised, and the utility of his plans so obvious, as easily to induce the deputies of the people when assembled in the STATES to acquiesce in them, he approved the proposal, and advised the king to adopt it.

No sooner was this determination known, than all the active spirits in the nation were set at work, to contrive plans each for their own aggrandizement; for the effecting of which they trusted to their influence in the great popular assembly about to be opened. These, as in every case of this sort, were by each man kept secret; and many of them can never be so much as guessed at, being concealed under various disguised veils. Many good and well meaning men not foreseeing the secret influence of these sinister views, seriously rejoiced, in the prospect of thus getting many evils, that were obvious, removed. But soon did the minister see that all his fine theories were swept away as cobwebs before the rising breeze; and the others when too late have been fatally convinced of their error.

No sooner did the national assembly feel its power, than it went far beyond the bounds he had prescribed to it. The most artful persons among them, aware of the power of the nobility, and fearing to attack it directly, while the regal authority was unimpeached, began with attacking, by means of a popular insurrection, the *bastille*, knowing that in this attempt the nobility would *secretly* concur with the people. This being once done, and the army bribed from its allegiance, the regal power received a decisive blow it never could recover; and the grandees in vain then attempted to restore what they themselves had inadvertently contributed to pull down. They could then be safely attacked; their privileges were at first curtailed; and soon after, their whole order was annihilated.

Here once more, a number of good men like the worthy but short sighted minister, saw that they had contributed to let loose an inundation whose extent could not be foreseen, and whose progress could not be opposed; and numbers repented when too late. The inundation went forward. In vain did they oppose to it an Utopian *constitution* which pretended to stop the pro-

gress of men with unlimited power in their hands, by a set of words implying authority where no power of enforcing obedience was given. This *constitution* was received with universal applause; because it set bounds to the ambition of no one, and was declared by the unanimous assertions of a whole people to be *eternal*. The *national assembly* by that deed, was voluntarily dissolved, because the leading men in it had no doubt of becoming such in the *convention*, that was instantly to be called. Here again, in their turn, *they* were disappointed; and the very first act of this convention was to annihilate that *eternal* constitution, which a few months before they had sworn to preserve.

Hitherto LIBERTY had been the only boon that was sought by the people; but now the new word *equality* was added to it: a word of mysterious import, which startled a few weak minds at first; and therefore it was *explained away*, till the time should come when it might be adopted in the most unequivocal sense of the word. The king was at first deposed, — then imprisoned, — then tried as a culprit, and brought to the block. — Millions now saw that they had let loose a torrent which threatened to sweep away every thing they deemed valuable in society; but where was the power to stop it? If a murmur was heard, the strong arm of power instantly crushed the pretended culprit. An attempt was at last made by those who had long been the most active agents of what they called *reform*, to stem the torrent which they themselves had contributed to render all powerful. They found it irresistible; and they were swept away before it, as the others in succession had been.

The natural consequence of anarchy, a *pure despotism*, is now fully established in France. A second *constitution* was offered and rejected. A third has been substituted and received in its place. By that constitution the national convention should have been annihilated; but, under the pretext that the nation is in a state of danger, it has, like Oliver's parliament been continued, in order to screen despotism from appearing to open view. Indeed there is but one party in that convention at present; and that party is of course armed with the most absolute power, which is exercised with a rigidity of despotic authority of which no parallel can be produced in the annals of Europe. Emissaries are sent out to every quarter with full authority to imprison or put to death every one they *suspect* of incivism, and to confiscate their property. They have absolute power to summon every individual to take the field when they please. The system of *equality*, so long disavowed, is now established by the law itself, which declares that money must be taken from the rich to support the poor: that bakers must sell bread at a certain limited price avowedly below prime cost, taking their chance of indemnification from the state; and lastly that farmers must not take beyond a limited very low price for their corn, whatever it may have cost

them, and without any promise of indemnification whatever. Such are the principles on which the ruling powers of France at present conduct themselves; and such are the *necessary* consequences of the doctrine of *liberty and equality*. Of these consequences, Mr Paine, the former apostle of these doctrines is now made feelingly sensible.

Present state of France.

At present the whole power of that undivided despotic authority, is employed to make a convulsive exertion, to try if they can free themselves *at once*, from the encroachment of mimical powers. Every future consideration, is postponed for the safety of *the present hour*; and where *all is at stake*, under such a pure despotism, it may be expected that the *preparations* will be astonishingly great. Since our last, the arms of the *nominal* republic have been successful in reducing the city of Marseilles to their obedience. But *Toulon*, in want of provisions, and probably dreading the same fate, has entered into a negotiation with Lord Hood, and has put him into possession of that important place, and arsenal, to be held by him in the name of Louis xvii. till peace shall be restored. *Lyons* is threatened, but not yet besieged. The insurgents in *Vendée* are said to have been frequently defeated; but these accounts are contradicted. In *Rousillon* the Spaniards have made no considerable progress; and though the Piedmontese have entered the district of Mount Blank, yet their progress has been inconsiderable; and, in as far as can be collected from the imperfect accounts that reach us, it seems probable, that in the *interior* of France the patriotic army, in consequence of these exertions, has been able to make head against the insurgents, so as rather to have gained than lost ground since our last.

It is evident however from various applications to the national convention, that provisions are scarce, and famine in various places is much apprehended. Rouen was lately in the most pressing want; and a decree has just been passed, ordering the gardens round Paris to be cultivated *at the national expence*. What a dreadful idea does this give of the universal opinion of the insecure state of property near that city !!!

Duke of York's army.

But the object that the rulers of France seem to have had most at heart, has been to cut off the duke of York's army before Dunkirk. For this purpose prodigious exertions have been made, since he separated from the main army. Great bodies of troops have been drawn from the armies of the Moselle, the Rhine, and every quarter within reach for this grand enterprise. These troops to the number of 120,000 men, as some accounts, probably much exaggerated state, attacking him on all sides, aided by the gun boats, and vigorous sallies from the garrison of Dunkirk, put his little army on the 8th, 9th, and 10th of this month, into the most perilous situation; so that, forced to abandon about thirty-two pieces of battering cannon, and considerable stores, he

only thought of making good his retreat to Ostend; which at one time, it seemed very doubtful if he would be able to effect. At that critical moment, General Beaulieu flew to their aid; and upon the 8th attacked the French near Lisle, and obtained a complete victory, as it was first said, dispersing them with a great slaughter, and taking about thirty pieces of cannon. This has enabled the Duke of York's army to recover from the dismay into which they had been thrown. A second victory was said to be obtained by Beaulieu; but later accounts render this doubtful; and it is now known, that the French have obtained possession of Ypres, the Dutch having been driven back to Bruges and Ghent, and thus will endeavour to prevent a junction between Beaulieu and the duke of York's army, which at the present moment appears to be in a situation extremely perilous. On the 15th, the Duke's army was encamped at Thoroute, a small village between Dixmude and Bruges, in hourly expectation of being attacked.

During the course of these operations, many attacks have been made upon the French lines near Wissemburg on the Rhine by the Prussians, who have not yet been able to force them. In the mean while Strasbourg is said to be in a state of insurrection; and Quesnoy has been obliged to surrender prisoners of war to the victorious arms of the prince of Saxe Cobourg, who took possession of it on the 13th. It is also reported that St Quentin surrendered to him without resistance; and that on his way from thence to besiege Cambray he also took a valuable convoy going for that place of 200 waggons of provisions, and 14 of ammunition, besides 700 head of cattle and 200 horses.

The French having weakened their forces towards Savoy to oppose the Marseilloise, they now also talk of withdrawing their arms from before Nice, that they may have the benefit of these troops to forward their operations in Provence. It is scarcely to be doubted that they will try if possible to recover Toulon from the English and the royalists.

Naval affairs.

In consequence of the surrender and disarming of seventeen French ships of the line, and seventeen frigates, in the harbour of Toulon; the whole naval power of the French in the Mediterranean must be, for the present, totally annihilated: and their commerce in those seas, unless from the ports that submit to the combined powers, entirely cut off. This must prove peculiarly distressing to the inhabitants of the southern provinces of France, where the large towns of Marseilles, Aix, Avignon, Lyons, &c. containing much people, and the country producing little corn, depend upon foreign supplies for about three fourths of their subsistence.

Our fleet in the channel under lord Howe has hitherto done nothing of consequence; he is still lying at Torbay, and collecting all the force he can from every quarter, as if he dreaded the attack of a superior foe. It is in-

deed reported that the French fleet, consisting of 33 sail of the line, is in the channel; but no person has yet seen them. The nation in general do not look upon Lord Howe's conduct at present with a favourable eye. Time will discover if he has had sufficient reason for this scrupulous caution. From the representations that are given to the convention of the state of Brest, it would seem that they are under great apprehensions that neither the officers of the navy, nor the people of that place, are to be depended upon; and should it happen that the insurgents in Vendée in imitation of those of Toulon, should apply for the aid of Britain in support of Louis xvii, and should a navy appear before Brest of superior force, and a negociation be conducted with equal moderation as that entered into by lord Hood, it does not seem beyond the bounds of possibility that Brest might be delivered up on nearly the same terms with Toulon. But so long as Gaston, whose views seem to be at least doubtful, shall have the principal sway in those parts, a steady unanimity on this head needs perhaps not be expected.

As a strong detachment from lord Hood's squadron may be soon expected home, it may be reasonably thought that should the present tempest be weathered without any material damage, the operations in the channel will be carried on with greater vigour than heretofore. Britain has derived hitherto scarcely any assistance in her naval operations either from the Russians or Dutch, and none from the Portuguese;—and though the Spaniards have a numerous squadron in the Mediterranean, we have heard of nothing they have done. Lord Hood commands on that station no less than 20 British ships of the line; besides the Romney of 50, and Dolphin of 44 guns, 16 frigates and sloops of war, and 2 fireships; in all 40 ships of war; a force that one would think, even independent of the Spanish fleet, much more than could be wanted in those seas.

The following is the declaration of the inhabitants of Toulon, and the conditions on which they agreed to put lord Hood in possession of that place.

Declaration made to Adm. Lord Hood.

The General Committee of the Sections of Toulon having read the proclamation of Admiral Lord Hood, Commander in Chief of his Britannic Majesty's squadron, together with his primary declaration; and, after having communicated these two papers to all the citizens of the town of Toulon, united in sections.

Considering that France is torn by anarchy, and that it is impossible to exist longer a prey to the factions with which the country is agitated, without its total destruction:

Considering that the southern departments, after having made long efforts to resist the oppression of a party of factious men, who have conspired to ruin them, find themselves drained and deprived of all resources to annihilate this coalition of the evil-disposed:

Considering, in short, that determined not to submit to the tyranny of a Convention that has sworn to ruin the nation, the people of Toulon, and those of Marseilles, would rather have recourse to the generosity of a loyal

people, who has manifested the desire of protecting the true Frenchmen against the anarchists who wish to ruin them :

Declare to Admiral Hood,

I. That the unanimous wish of the inhabitants of Toulon, is to reject a constitution which does not promote their happiness, to adopt a Monarchic Government such as it was originally by the Constituent Assembly of 1789; and in consequence, they have proclaimed Louis XVII. son to Louis XVI. KING, and have sworn to acknowledge him, and no longer suffer the despotism of the tyrants which at this time govern France.

II. That the white flag shall be hoisted the instant the English squadron anchors in the road of Toulon, and it will there meet the most friendly reception.

III. That the ships of war now in the road will be disarmed, according to Admiral Hood's wishes.

IV. That the citadel and the forts of the coast shall be provisionally at the disposal of the said admiral; but for the better establishing the union which ought to exist between the two people, it is requested that the garrison shall be composed of an equal number of French and English, and that nevertheless the command shall devolve to the English.

V. The people of Toulon trust the English nation will furnish speedily a force sufficient to assist in repelling the attacks with which they are at this moment threatened by the army of Italy, which marches towards Toulon, and by that of General CARTEAU, who directs his forces against Marseilles.

VI. That the people of Toulon, full of confidence in the generous offers of Admiral Hood, trust that all those who held civil and military employments shall be continued in their places, and shall not be annoyed in their respective occupations.

VII. That the subsistence and succours of every kind, of which Toulon stands so much in need, will be assured to the inhabitants by the combined fleet of the powers coalesced.

VIII. That when peace will have been re-established in France, the ships and forts which shall be put into the hands of the English shall be restored to the French nation, in the same state they were in when the inventory was delivered.

It is according to this declaration, if approved by Admiral Hood, that the Toulonese will regard themselves, with good heart and will, as belonging to the English and the other powers coalesced, and by whose succour will be brought about that peace after which they have panted so long.

(Signed)

BEAUDEAL, President, and 28 of the principal inhabitants.

Lord Hood was put into possession of the town on the 28 Aug. when he immediately delivered the following proclamation.

PROCLAMATION

By the right hon. SAMUEL LORD HOOD, vice admiral of the red, and commander in chief of his Britannic Majesty's squadron in the Mediterranean, &c. &c.

Whereas the sections of Toulon have, by their commissioners to me, made a solemn declaration in favour of monarchy, have proclaimed Louis XVII. son of the late Louis XVI. their lawful king, and have sworn to acknowledge him, and no longer suffer the despotism of the tyrants which at this time govern France, but will do their utmost to establish monarchy, as accepted by their late sovereign in 1789, and restore peace to their distracted and calamitous country.

I do hereby repeat, what I have already declared to the people of the South of France, that I take possession of Toulon, and hold it in trust only for Louis xvii. until peace shall be re-established in France, which I hope and trust will be soon.

Given on Board his Britannic Majesty's ship Victory, off Toulon, the 28th of August 1793.

(Signed)

HOOD.

A memorial has been presented to the court of Sweden, by Mr. Keene, ambassador from the court of Great Britain, desiring that Sweden will not permit any British ships that may be captured and brought into the Swedish ports to be sold, but that it would give orders to release the ships, cargoes, and crews; and that the enemy's ships may not be permitted to remain in the Swedish harbours. The *duke regent* has complied with this request; assuring his *Britannic majesty* that the most vigorous orders will be given for that purpose, still farther to cement the harmony betwixt the two courts, so advantageous to both.

POSTSCRIPT.

Edinburgh Sept. 24th, by the last accounts from the combined army, our fears for the safety of the troops under the command of the duke of York, are in a great measure removed. It now seems to be pretty certain that he has advanced towards Menin to form a junction with Beaulieu,—that these two generals had attacked the French there, and obliged them to retire; and that in several other places, the French parties had been beat back with considerable loss; and every thing resumed its wonted appearance in that army.

Letters are in town also, specifying that General Carteau had advanced towards Toulon, with a view to attack it; and for that purpose had occupied some of the adjacent heights, and begun to fortify them,—that captain Elphinstone had made a sally with the troops under his command, consisting of British, Spanish, and French, and had beat back Carteau with the loss of all his artillery, &c. But this news is not so well authenticated as to be considered as certain.

It now appears, that the fleet which, in the channel, had been mistaken, by the *cautious* Howe, for the Brest squadron; was only a Dutch fleet of merchantmen under convoy of some ships of war. Whether this phantom being vanished, lord Howe will think it prudent to slip his spring cables and put to sea, or if he will be detained there by another phantom of the same kind, it is not easy to say.

So far is the French squadron at Brest from being dreaded, that it would seem probable they are now planning a revolution of the same kind with that of Toulon. An emigrant who made his escape in a boat from Brittany, says, that when he left that place dissention prevailed so much in Brest, that a great part of the sailors refused to act; and that a vessel bearing a flag of truce had been sent off from that harbour before he left it, but what the intention of it was, he could not with certainty say. It is probably this circumstance which has given rise to the report which has prevailed in London, for some days past, that proposals had been received by lord Howe, from the people of Brest, of the same tendency with the overtures from Toulon to lord Hood; but that lord Howe, from the superabundance of his caution had thought it necessary to receive instructions from London before he could venture to determine how he should act on *this singularly difficult and critical occasion*. All this wants confirmation. But the reports respecting Brest in the national convention, give some countenance to the story. There also it has been stated that the insurgents in Vendée instead of being beaten, continue to wax stronger and stronger every day.

HISTORICAL CHRONICLE.

WEDNESDAY OCTOBER 16.

FOREIGN.

Retrospective view of the progress of the allied armies, &c.

WHEN the Duke of Brunswick invaded France, it seems to have been the decided opinion of the allied powers, that nothing more was wanted for establishing royalty in France than to bring together an armed force that might serve as a rallying point to give countenance to the Royalists, who they imagined would rise in great bodies, and effect a revolution without trouble or much bloodshed. But if such were their expectations, the event showed they were miserably deceived; and indeed the measures adopted by the Duke were the best calculated to throw bars in his way, that could have been conceived. The manifestos he published were so insulting, and so utterly the reverse of being conciliatory, that they rather served to unite than to disjoin the party he opposed; and by impressing the favourers of the royal cause with a mean opinion of those who pretended to support it, deterred them from declaring their sentiments, or coming forward in his support, lest they should be abandoned to their fate by the capriciousness of men who seemed to be so little capable of judging rightly, or of acting steadily in their support.

The event showed that they judged rightly in this respect; and the conduct of the allies to *Fayette* completely annihilated every expectation they could have formed from that quarter.

These events, with the gasconading manifesto published by the Duke at the moment he found himself obliged, from sickness and want of provisions, to make a precipitate retreat before an army led on by an active general, who knew that nothing could save him from destruction but success at that moment, completely removed any remains of confidence in the allied powers, that had been suffered to exist till that period. Every person who seemed to be within the reach of danger made haste to abandon a cause that was supported by men who seemed to be so little capable of affording them protection. In consequence of this, the secret abettors of royalty were eager to come forward in support of the Republican cause, in order to remove suspicions that they thought must prove destructive to them; and all who were unfixed in their principles were induced to espouse the democratical cause, and heartily to co-operate in its support. By these means Dumourier was enabled to make a winter campaign, which, for brilliancy of success, was unequalled in the annals of past times. In a few months he over-ran the

whole of the Netherlands; invaded Germany; got the command of the Scheldt and the Rhine; and making the most vigorous exertions to enter Holland, properly so called, he boasted that even Britain and the most remote parts of Europe should be subjected, and that nothing should stop the progress of the French arms, but the total annihilation of royalty every where. To give some appearances of reality to these threats, Savoy was invaded, and part of its territories annexed to the dominions of France. Switzerland, Spain, Naples, were threatened and overawed; and the pontiff of Rome himself insulted in his own palace. Such successes intoxicated the people; and the national convention seeming to believe that nothing was impossible for them to accomplish, made a decree, offering fraternity and support to those persons of all nations who should attempt to overturn royalty, and establish republicanism in its stead.

During this paroxysm of republican ardour, they judged it proper, as an example for all nations, to bring their own king to the block, after a trial, which, from the singularity of the circumstances attending it, not less than the rules of jurisprudence there, practically avowed, has no parallel in history.

By these violent proceedings, Holland, Britain, Spain, Portugal, and Sardinia, were driven to join the alliance that had been before entered into between Austria and Prussia, to repress the power of France. By a vigorous and joint exertion, the arms of France received a decisive check at one moment, through every point along the utmost extent of their whole conquest in the north. In one week they were repulsed in almost every place; and with a rapidity still greater than their conquests had been made, they were driven from every one of their new conquests, Mentz alone excepted, and confined once more to the limits of their own proper territories on that side.

During the short space the French had been in possession of these new conquests, the people there had had time to appreciate the value of that new kind of government they wished to establish in place of all others, and were in general so much disgusted with it, that they were still more unanimous in concurring with the allies to expel the French from their territories, than they had lately been to invite them thither, which greatly facilitated the operations of the campaign at this period. But when the allies came in their turn to invade the territories of France, these considerations no longer operated in the same manner, but in their stead, other considerations began to operate on men's minds, which produced a resistance that retarded the rapidity of their conquests in a considerable degree.

So long as the allies were only re-conquering their own provinces, few sober minded men, even in France, could view their exertions as iniquitous, or entertain a well founded jealousy of their designs; but the moment they invaded the territories of France, the case was changed. It is well known that the *amor patriæ*, influences mankind in a very strong degree, so that however much individuals may differ in lesser points, they

generally feel their minds so much irritated against any power that makes a direct attack upon the territories of their native country, that the first impulse they feel is an indignant desire to oppose them; nothing therefore tends so much to allay civil discords as such an attack, nor can any other means be devised equally powerful to unite different parties in a state where discord begins to prevail. The allies seem either not to have adverted to this human propensity, or they have believed themselves so powerful as to think that they might with safety disregard it. Instead of endeavouring to conciliate the good will of such persons in France as might be seriously anxious for the restoration of peace and good order in that distracted country, their conduct has been such as to give them reason to dread that the chief object these allies had in view, was a dismemberment of the kingdom, by obtaining such a footing in it as might put it in their power at any future period to subject the people of France to whatever regulations they should please to dictate; and the dismemberment of Poland affords at present but too striking an example of the use that may be expected to be made of such a power.. That such considerations have occurred to sensible men in France there can be no doubt; and there can be as little doubt that this has produced an ardour and unanimity in opposing the allies, that never would have been experienced had no such jealousy against their views existed—Whether such a jealousy has entered into the mind of such of the allies as can have no interest in the dismemberment of France, so as to cool their exertions in the cause, we have no authority as yet to say. But it is so natural to expect it should, that we can scarcely suppose it can have been entirely overlooked. It is not at all improbable, but the capture of Dunkirk was held out to Britain as a bait to keep her quiet in the mean time. The failure of that enterprise has occasioned an indignation, which among a high spirited people, may produce a temporary spurt that may keep the other object out of view for some time.

That the views of Austria and Prussia with regard to conquests in France, are such as they do not dare to avow even to their allies, seems scarcely to admit of a doubt, otherways their proceedings have been such as to contradict all the dictates of prudence and of common sense. Had they had no sinister object in view, would they not have made a clear and unequivocal declaration at the first, before they set a foot upon the territories of France, specifying, in the most direct terms, the precise object they had in view, and in a candid and open manner inviting all honest Frenchmen to unite in freeing their country from that oppressive despotism which now threatens to destroy it; requesting them to make haste in establishing such a government as should be calculated to preserve the person of individuals from danger, and their property from insult; declaring at the same time that they had no other object in view than to contribute to the establishment of such a government as should seem to be calculated to preserve the internal tranquillity of the kingdom, and to give to foreign states such a reasonable security

as may be expected from a government which is possessed of such stability as to give room to expect that the dictates of sound sense, unawed by the turbulence of faction, could be carried into execution in all cases. That in the meantime they would adopt such a mode of government in regard to such places in France, as should chuse to put themselves under their protection, as should convince the inhabitants they had no other object in view but the protection and happiness of these inhabitants, and their own security.

Had this been done, and had their conduct been such, upon the first trials, as to give a reasonable ground to believe their professions were sincere, there is little room to doubt but they would have experienced a very different reception in France from what they have done;—and there are good reasons to believe, that in that case, the war might have been at an end before this time. All these things are so plain, that to a man of such penetration as the Prince de Cobourg, they would not have been overlooked. But so far have they been from adopting this candid mode of conduct, that they have proceeded invariably to wrest such places from France, by *mere force*, as they have been able to master, preserving in the mean time the most profound and suspicious silence with regard to their future views. And when the places have been conquered *by force*, instead of regarding the remonstrances of *Monsieur*, who wished that a conduct of this kind should be adopted, these remonstrances have met with the most mortifying neglect, and a mysterious proclamation has been issued, offering only security of person and property to those who submit quietly to the dominion of the allied powers, while the places shall remain in their possession.

The object of Austria and Prussia in regard to these particulars, seems to be by no means inexplicable, and the consequence of these apparent views in protracting the war is obvious; but there is another particular respecting the conduct of these powers during the currency of the present war, that baffles all conjecture to account for. The aim of every belligerent power is to weaken its opponent as much as possible; and as nothing tends so much to relax the vigour of execution, as to excite a distrust in the persons who must be employed in high military departments, it is the most obvious duty of every power at war with another, to let no circumstance escape, that can tend to excite distrust of the generals employed. But never was there a war in which this could have been so easily and effectually practised as the present: Nor was there ever an instance known, in which a belligerent power had been so careful to avoid making use of this obviously favourable circumstance, as the present. Austria and Prussia have indeed done as much to prevent this kind of treachery in their enemies, as every other warring power we have known, would have done to encourage it. *Fayette* no sooner came over to them than he was thrown into prison, where he has been guarded ever since with the utmost care. And *Dumourier* has been treated in such a manner as to deter any other man in similar circumstances

from thinking of following his example. In the actual circumstances of the case, this is a conduct the most impolitic that can be conceived; for, since the national convention have found it suited their policy to put every general to death who was not successful, thus intending to compel them to fight with the most determined bravery, it was surely the interest of their opponents to disarm them if possible of that fury, by offering them a safe asylum whenever they might find their position so dangerous as to render it prudent in them to change sides. This would have not only tended to disarm their enemies of that fury, which may prove so destructive, but it would have had the farther effect of making all the republican generals so exceedingly suspected, that the convention would have been afraid of entrusting power completely into any hand for one moment, the consequences of which distrust in cases of critical military operations are obvious. By pursuing an opposite conduct, the allies have enabled the national convention to cut off the heads of one general after another, in the firm conviction that as long as the allies shall adhere to this mode of conduct, they shall be able at least to arm their generals with desperation. All these considerations are so obvious, that one must believe the allies have some *very powerful* motive for this wonderful conduct, which is altogether inexplicable. As to their detestation of the moral turpitude of this conduct, it is ridiculous to think this could have any weight in such a case.

Toulon, and the southern parts of France.

Britain has happily adopted a more explicit mode of conduct, at Toulon. Her declarations have been candid and explicit; and it is to be hoped she will adopt such a mode of conduct as to show unequivocally that she is sincere in these declarations. Should that be the case, it is very probable the example may prove infectious; and that the whole south of France may thus be induced to unite and restore tranquillity to that distracted kingdom, so as to admit of a speedy peace upon such terms as may promise a lasting tranquillity, which may enable that country to assume once more that weight in the political scale of Europe, which it is our interest at least she never should lose. The French are at present making every possible exertion to regain that important place; and the British and Spaniards are equally active in preparing to defend it. A little time will discover which will prove successful. In the mean while, it is easy to foresee, that if the French shall not there succeed, Marseilles and Thoulouse will be obliged to adopt a similar revolution with that of Toulon, were it only to preserve them from famine. Thoulouse is indeed said to be already in the hands of the Spaniards; but this wants confirmation. Lyons is still besieged.

On the western coasts Bourdeaux is still said to be in a state of insurrection; but no decisive measures seem to have been adopted: And from what can be learned, the royalists in Brittany still seem to be rather gaining than

losing ground. Nothing respecting the state of Brest has transpired since our last.

The French are said to have abandoned Nice, and to have been defeated in Piedmont. But nothing certain is known respecting them.

The allies on the northern frontiers have been in general advancing since our last; several victories have been gained by them, but nothing of decisive consequence.

DOMESTIC.

Lord Howe still keeps his station at Torbay. He sailed, but was beat back in a few days by contrary winds.

A large armament is fitting out in England under the command of Sir John Jervis, supposed to befor the West Indies; the land forces to be commanded by Sir Charles Grey.—The conquest of all the French islands is the supposed object of this armament.

A violent commotion took place at Bristol last week, to quell which the military were obliged to fire. On this occasion between 30 and 40 persons were unfortunately killed. The cause of this disturbance was the continuation of a toll upon a bridge and some other places, after the term was expired when the public believed the tolls by act of parliament ought to have been taken off,—the mob insisting that the tolls should be removed, and the commissioners to whom this was intrusted refusing to do so.—The trustees at last published a state of their accounts, from which it appeared that the whole sum authorised by parliament had not been levied. The magistrates having agreed to make up this deficiency to the trustees, the tolls complained of have been taken off, and tranquillity restored; but unfortunately not till after many unhappy persons had suffered.

America.

The inhabitants of New York have adopted several resolutions, approving in strong terms of the conduct of the president Washington, for his strict attention to preserve the most rigid neutrality on the present occasion. General Washington's answer to that address is strongly expressive of his satisfaction at obtaining the approbation of these respectable citizens of a conduct which he believed to be essentially necessary for promoting the welfare of the united states.

Citizen Genet, the French plenipotentiary in America, has been very active in his endeavours to induce the people in America to declare for France, and has on that account been discountenanced, as it should seem by Mr Washington. *Genet* addresses a long letter to Mr Washington on this subject, dated New York, 13th August, 1793, to which the president, by means of Mr Jefferson secretary of state, declines to give any answer, on the footing of its being unformal, as all papers addressed to the president should be transmitted to the secretary of state.

MISCELLANEOUS.

The late General Custine was about to be acquitted by the Revolutionary Tribunal; but Robespierre sent some of his emissaries to that Tribunal to tell them, that if Custine was not executed on the following day, the heads of the jury should be carried about on pikes—This had the desired effect.—After the executioner had struck off his head, which was bald, he took it by the ear, and shewed it to the people, who set up an immoderate shout of laughter.

Anecdote.—When Field-Marshal Freytag was taken prisoner at Rexpoede, the French Hussar who seized him, perceiving that he had a valuable watch, said, "Give me your watch;" The Marshal instantly complied with the demand of his captor. A short time after, when he was liberated by the gallantry of General Walmoden, and the French Hussar had become a prisoner in his turn, the latter with great unconcern, pulled the Marshal's watch out of his pocket, and presenting it to him, said, "Since fate has turned against me, take back this watch; it belonged to you, and it would not be so well to let others strip me of it."

Marshal Freytag admiring this principled conduct of the *Sans Culotte*, who did not know him, took back the watch, and immediately after presented it to the Frenchman, saying, "Keep the watch: it shall not become mine, for I have been your prisoner."

The late violation of private property in Paris, by the seizure of the Caisse d'Escompte, and the East-India House, contributed greatly to the counter-revolution in Toulon. The merchants finding all security contemned and outraged, abandoned at once the interest of the plunderers, and threw themselves for safety into the hands of the English, who will no doubt behave to them with that generosity which such unlimited confidence demands.

The costly effects seized on by the imperial Government, when M. de Semonville and Maret were arrested, and which were attached to their splendid embassy, have been carried to Vienna, where they are at present deposited. They turn out to be of immense value, and consist of the following articles:

Two very magnificent state carriages—the private instructions of the above two gentlemen—two caskets, belonging to the late French King, valued at two millions of florins; among other precious jewels, is the famous brilliant called the Regent—two other caskets, with jewellery—a table service of gold, for twenty persons—200,000 Louis d'Ors in gold and bills of exchange—a large quantity of gold tapestry, lace, &c. All these articles his Imperial Majesty has promised to take care of.

EXTRAORDINARY ROBBERY.

A Gentleman, who was passing up the east side of Hatton Garden, about five o'clock on the afternoon of Sep. 20, heard indistinctly frequent cries of murder! accompanied with groans, which at length appeared to him to proceed from the inner rooms of one of the houses. No answer being returned to his repeated knocks at the door, he procured a ladder from a glazier's servant, who was passing by, and both ascended to a window, where they again heard the cries, but the latter person was so much alarmed that he refused to be the first in entering the house, and it was necessary to descend the ladder, to change their position. After this interruption, they and some other persons searched every room in the house, in which they found neither inhabitants nor furniture.

At length in a cellar in the yard, over which was a locked grating, they discovered a youth of about 18 years of age, bound hands and feet, and while they were releasing him, the police officers, who had been sent for, arrived. It appeared, that the young man, who is collecting clerk to Mefs. Lubbock, had gone to the house with a bill upon the owner, who is in the country. The door was opened to him by two men, who immediately siezed, rifled his pockets of his cash and notes, bound him, and locked him into the cellar; after which they made their escape over the garden wall, promising to return and release him at ten at night. He was happily released without injury than from his alarm, and taken in a coach immediately to Mefs. Lubbock's.

The Dutch, in their accounts of their late retreats, attribute them to the check received by the Duke of York and General Freytag, and to their being left with only 7000 men to guard a vast extent of country, while the French were 30,000. They say they fought with great bravery. They had three lieutenant colonels killed. Prince Frederick of Orange, Prince Christian of Denmark, and Major-general Wertensleben, wounded—and Major-general Gravemoer is wounded and taken prisoner, after having his horse shot under him.

M. Malesherbes, one of the official defenders of the late King of France, it is said, has just been arrested as a *suspicious person*.

Deseze, another defender of the unfortunate monarch, has been obliged to fly, and it is thought he is come over to England.

It is said that Bailie, the first mayor of Paris, has been arrested at Melun, and is on his way to Paris.

Prince Waldeck was the other day in company with some officers of Condé, reconnoitring near Lauterburg the French line, and met with a French picket also of officers. The officers of Condé saluted first, and then the Prince, which was returned by the French with the hands only, without pulling off their hats.

The Prince began a conversation with them.—They were extremely polite—said their army was very strong; that their preparations for defence were excellent; that every thing they wanted was brought them with the greatest willingness; but that instead of money they had only assignats.

During this conversation Prince Waldeck dropped one of his gloves, which was immediately taken up and returned to the Prince by a servant of a French colonel. The Prince gave this servant three ducats, which he thankfully accepted, alleging, that there was not so much ready cash in the whole regiment. After which Prince Waldeck said to the French colonel. that he was surprised he could put himself at the head of such men. The French officer replied, "We fight for our native country, and deem it an honour to command such men; but with you it is quite different."

All on a sudden they were apprised that they were in conference with the Imperial General Prince Waldeck; upon which they immediately pulled off their hats, showed him all possible respect under the most flattering expressions;—clapped spurs to their horses, and exclaimed, "Adieu, Mr General;—in the field of battle we shall see one another again!"

A few days since an English gentleman chanced to be standing with a Dutch merchant on the quay of Rotterdam, when an American vessel entered the port—"There," said *Mynbeer*, pointing to Miss *Tanky*, "that is what we should be doing instead of wasting our dollars and spilling our blood."

HISTORICAL CHRONICLE.

WEDNESDAY NOVEMBER 6.

FOREIGN.

Warlike operations.

SINCE our last the military operations in France have been vigorous tho' nothing decisive on the frontiers of France has yet happened. On the one hand the French having used every effort to augment their army near Lisle, attacked the allied army under the Prince de Cobourg on the 16th and 17th last, with so much vigour as to compel him to raise the siege of Maubeuge, and to retreat beyond the Sambre. The loss on either side during this severe conflict is not yet known; but it must have been considerable. Prince Cobourg's army is not broken. The retreat was effected in good order, and none of the artillery lost. He now occupies a strong position it is said in the neighbourhood of Mons. This gives a check at least to the progress of the allies there in the mean while.

The French have at the same time made another vigorous effort to enter Austrian Flanders on the west; Furnes, a small defenceless place near Dunkirk has been taken, Newport has been summoned to surrender to a body of troops said to be ten thousand strong, and has been saved for the present merely by the effect of the inundations made on the surrounding country; Ostend and Bruges are both threatened by the same body of forces, and such preparations as are capable of being made for defending such defenceless places are going forward with alacrity, though it seems pretty evident that if the enemy are able to keep the field, and no superior force can be brought against them there, these towns could not make great resistance. Several bomb vessels, gun boats, and frigates are brought before Ostend to assist in the defence, should it be necessary.

On the other hand while the army on the Rhine was weakened to forward these undertakings, General Wurmsers attacked the formidable lines of Wesselsburgh, which he completely carried, and thus got an entrance into the territories of France on that quarter; an object which, for many months past, the Prussians have in vain attempted to effect, and which might probably have baffled their utmost efforts during the campaign, but for the circumstance above stated. Landau is said to have already surrendered; and by the last accounts Straßburgh was said to be upon the point of surrendering; but this wants confirmation. Whether the French have acted wisely in thus admitting the enemy into their comparatively defenceless frontier on the east, in order to give a check to the progress of the enemy upon the

north, which amidst so many strongly fortified places must have been at best but slow, we pretend not at present to say. It is perhaps of more consequence for them at present to gain an apparent victory than we are aware of. Time will show.

In the interior of France the troops of the national convention seem, if the accounts that reach us can be believed, to have met with considerable success. Lyons opened its gates to them on the 9th ult. after the garrison had to the number of 30,000 men secretly made its escape from thence. They have been pursued, and by the account of the republican generals most of them have been cut to pieces. By the same accounts the royalists in Vendée have sustained several defeats. The Spaniards, they say, have been also repulsed in the lower Pyrenees, and the Savoyards driven out of Piedmont. But these reports are of doubtful authority. Surmises likewise are abroad that general Conclaux has left the army near Toulon, and taken refuge among the English in that place. But neither is this information to be relied on.

But it is altogether certain that the national convention irritated by the defection of the Lyonoise, and the obstinate defence they made when besieged, have passed a decree to raze that city to the foundation, and not to leave one stone upon another, except a few houses belonging to a select number of true *sans culottes*. This severe decree, unexampled in the history of past times, unless it be by the decree of the Athenians to raze the city of Lesbos, and put to the sword the whole of its inhabitants, men, women, and children, which was next day reversed by that giddy people, be put in competition with it. This seems to have been done with a view to please the Parisians, who have long looked upon Lyons as a sort of rival to Paris. And there is little reason to suspect that it will not be carried into effect. The city of Lyons before the present trouble was supposed to contain not less than 150,000 inhabitants, and was the most opulent manufacturing town in France.

The queen of France.

Had not the world been long prepared for the event, by a series of atrocities fast succeeding each other, in an uninterrupted series for a long while past, the murder of the queen of France would have excited the most lively sensations of horror. In the present state of things, it has been considered as little more than an ordinary event. She, poor woman, is at length at her rest, and beyond the power of farther outrage. Her son and daughter yet remain, probably to afford another, and a still more unexampled instance of the wonderful lengths to which the wickedness of the human heart can be carried when uncurb'd by a sense of moral rectitude, religion, or the law. The following is a succinct account of the mock trial, by which they disgraced the sacred forms of justice.

CONDEMNATION AND EXECUTION OF THE QUEEN OF FRANCE.

The decree of the Convention, ordering that her trial should come on within eight days, was implicitly obeyed by the Revolutionary Tribunal. The trial took place on the 15th ult.

The following is an extract of part of the proceedings:

ACT OF ACCUSATION, OR INDICTMENT.

MARIE ANTOINETTE stands charged,

1st, With having dilapidated and lavished the finances of the nation, in concert with the execrable Calonne, by causing to be transmitted to the Emperor several millions, which still serve to carry on the war with France.

2dly, With having, in imitation of *Bruneaud*, and *De Medecis*, who also called themselves *queens of France*, conspired against the liberty of the French nation.

3dly, With having sought to starve the people in 1789.

4thly, With having excited the murders of October 5. and 6.

5thly, With having, in concert with *Bailly* and *la Fayette*, caused the patriots to be butchered in the *Champ de Mars*.

6thly, With having prevailed upon the Swiss to fire on the people on the 10th of August.

7thly, With having, like another *Agrippina*, forgotten that she was a mother, in order to commit incest with her son.

Marie Antoinette heard the reading of the act of accusation, without seeming to be in the least moved.

[Here the interrogatory began.]

President—"What is your name?"

Queen—"Marie Antoinette, of *Lorraine* and *Austria*."

President—"Your quality."

Queen—"I am the widow of Louis Capet king of the French."

[Here the witnesses were called in.]

Laurent Lecointre, the first witness, formerly chief of division of the national guard of Versailles, and at present a member of the National Convention, related the historical occurrences of the 5th and 6th of October; and from his relation it appeared, that the *ci-devant gardes de corps*, or life-guards, were the first aggressors. Lecointre spoke also, though not as an ocular witness of the nocturnal riot which was occasioned Oct. 1. at Versailles by the late king's life-guards in the hall of the Opera. "Marie Antoinette," said he, "repaired to that banquet:—she applauded the conduct of the guards: she also visited the regiment of Nassau and the chasseur of Trois Evêches, who were quartered in the Orangerie of the Gardens of Versailles."

Queen—"I repaired, I must own, with my husband and his children to the hall of the Opera house; but I did not see that the national cocade was trod under foot. It is false that I ever spoke to the soldiers of the regiment of Nafsau, or to the chaiseurs of Trois Eveches."

President—"What did you say to the life guards when you appeared at that orgy?"

Queen—"I applauded that banquet, because it was to have produced the union of the life guards with the national guards."

Public Accuser—"Have you not held secret councils at the house of the *ci-devant* Duchefs of Polignac—Councils at which the *ci-devant* French princes assisted, and in which, after having discussed the fate of the empire, you gave yourself up to the infamous pleasures of debauchery."

Queen—"All the state affairs were discussed in council, and no where else. I have no knowledge of the rest of this assertion."

Public Accuser—"Are not Thouret, Barentin, and de Espremenil, the authors of the articles of the declaration of June 23?"

Queen—"The ministers in place alone composed the council at that time."

Judge—"Did not your husband communicate his designs to you, when he invested the hall of the representatives of the people with troops?"

Queen—"My husband reposed his confidence in me; he communicated to me the speech which he was to have made on that occasion. He had in other respects, no bad intentions."

Judge—"Why did troops of the line invest Paris and Versailles?"

Queen—"For the sake of general safety."

Judge—"What use have you made of the immense sums which you have been entrusted with?"

Queen—"No enormous sum has been entrusted to me; the accounts of my household will prove what use has been made of all I have received."

Judge—"How did the family of the Polignacs, who were so poor at first, grow so rich?"

Queen—"That family held offices at court, which were very lucrative."

Many other questions were asked, and answers given in the same collected manner, which our limits prevent us from particularising. The following may show of what nature the evidence was that was brought against her.

Roussillon, *ci-devant* judge of the Revolutionary Tribunal—"All the facts contained in the act of accusation are of such public notoriety, that it is unnecessary to spend time on them: If my fullest conviction can be of any weight, I will not hesitate to affirm, that I am fully persuaded that this woman is guilty of the greatest crimes; that she has always conspired,

against the liberty of the French people. The following is a circumstance which I have to relate to you:—On the 10th of August, I was present at the siege of the Chateau of the Thuilleries. I saw under the bed of Marie Antoinette full or empty bottles, from which I concluded that she had herself distributed wine to the Swiss soldiers, that these wretches in their intoxication, might assassinate the people.” Roussillon then declared, that his intention, and that of the other patriots, was, after having inflicted justice on the Etat Major of the Swiss guards, to proceed to the Convention, to sacrifice the royal family, who had taken refuge there. “We met (added he) Brissot and Guadet, who conjured us not to commit that political crime; I say, political crime, for it can never surely be a crime in morals to rid the earth of tyrants.”

When the mock forms of justice were gone through, the Tribunal declared the widow Capet *guilty of having been accessory to and having co-operated in different manœuvres against the liberty of France; of having entertained a correspondence with the enemies of the republic; of having participated in a plot tending to kindle civil war in the interior of the republic, by arming citizens against each other.*

When the sentence was read to the queen, she cast down her eyes, and did not again lift them up. “Have you nothing to reply upon the determination of the law?” said the president to her. “Nothing,” she replied. “And you officious defenders?” “Our mission is fulfilled with respect to the widow Capet,” said they.

Sentence of death was then passed upon her, and the next day, viz Wednesday 16th ult. she was guillotined, at half past 11 o’clock in the forenoon.

The whole armed force in Paris was on foot from the place of justice to the place de la Revolution. The streets were lined by two very close rows of armed citizens. As soon as the *ci-devant* queen left the Conciergerie, to ascend the scaffold, the multitude which was assembled in the courts and the streets, cried out brave, in the midst of plaudits. She had on a white loose dress, and her hands were tied behind her back. She looked firmly round her on all sides. She was accompanied by the *ci-devant* Curate of St Landry, a constitutional priest, and on the scaffold preserved her natural dignity of mind.

When laid hold of by the executioner, she was observed to faintly smile, and submitted to her execution in the most passive manner: but at the moment, not a shout or murmur was heard among the immense multitude that surrounded.

Three young persons who dipped their handkerchiefs in her blood, were immediately arrested.

Fronson de Coudray and Chaveau de la Gards, the pleaders for Marie Antoinette, were, by order of the Committee of General Safety, put in

state of arrest, before sentence was pronounced.—The order says that this is a measure of general safety; that the arrest shall last only 24 hours and that every attention shall be paid to these prisoners.

Some accounts state that the queen was acquitted by the Tribunal, but that a sanguinary mob seized upon the unhappy queen and murdered her! We merely state this rumour, though we do not think it well authenticated; but in fact, the execution of an unjust sentence by regular forms is as repugnant to humanity as the most savage outrages of a lawless mob.

DOMESTIC

The government of Britain have at length declared by the following manifesto, what are the objects they wish ultimately to attain by the present war. Perhaps had this been published many months ago, and had it been accompanied by another to the same effect by the other allies, the effusion of much blood might have been prevented. It is hoped it may not still be too late to be of some service.

British manifesto.

Whitehall October 29. 1793.

The following Declaration has been sent, by his majesty's command, to the commanders of his majesty's fleets and armies employed against France, and to his majesty's ministers residing at foreign courts.

The circumstances, in consequence of which his majesty has found himself engaged in a defensive war against France, are known already to all Europe. The objects which his majesty has proposed to himself from the commencement of the war are of equal notoriety. To repel an unprovoked aggression, to contribute to the immediate defence of his allies, to obtain for them and for himself a just indemnification, and to provide, as far as circumstances will allow, for the future security of his own subjects, and of all the other nations of Europe; these are the points for which his majesty has felt it incumbent on him to employ all the means which he derives from the resources of his dominions, from the zeal and affection of his people, and from the unquestionable justice of his cause.

But it has become daily more and more evident how much the internal situation of France obstructs the conclusion of a solid and permanent treaty, which can alone fulfil his majesty's just and salutary views for the accomplishment of these important objects, and for restoring the general tranquillity of Europe. His majesty sees, therefore, with the utmost satisfaction, the prospect, which the present circumstances afford him, of accelerating the return of peace, by making to the well disposed part of the people of France, a more particular declaration of the principles which animate him, of the objects to which his views are directed, and of the conduct which it is his intention to pursue. With respect to the present situation of affairs, the events of the war, the confidence reposed in him by one of the most considerable cities of France, and, above all, the wish which is manifested almost universally in that country, to find a refuge from the tyranny by which it is now overwhelmed, render this explanation on his majesty's part a pleasing and indispensable duty: and his majesty feels additional satisfaction in making such a declaration, from the hope of finding, in the other powers engaged with him in the common cause, sentiments and views perfectly conformable to his own.

From the first period, when his most christian majesty Louis the XVI. had called his people around him, to join in concerting measures for their common happiness, the king has uniformly shewn by his conduct the sincerity of his wishes for the success of so difficult, but at the same time, so interesting an undertaking. His majesty was deeply afflicted with all the misfor-

times which ensued, but particularly when he perceived more and more evidently that measures, the consequences of which he could not disguise from himself, must finally compel him to relinquish the friendly and pacific system which he had adopted. The moment at length arrived when his majesty saw that it was necessary for him not only to defend his own rights and those of his allies, not only to repel the unjust aggression which he had recently experienced, but that all the dearest interests of his people imposed upon him a duty still more important, that of exerting his efforts for the preservation of civil society itself, as happily established among the nations of Europe.

The designs which had been professed of reforming the abuses of the government of France, of establishing personal liberty and the rights of property on a solid foundation, of securing to an extensive and populous country, the benefit of a wise legislation, and an equitable and mild administration of its laws, all these salutary views have unfortunately vanished. In their place has succeeded a system destructive of all public order, maintained by proscriptions, exiles, and confiscations without number, by arbitrary imprisonments, by massacres, which cannot even be remembered without horror, and at length, by the execrable murder of a just and beneficent sovereign, and of the illustrious prince, who, with an unshaken firmness, has shared all the misfortunes of her royal consort, his protracted sufferings, his cruel captivity, his ignominious death. The inhabitants of that unfortunate country, so long flattered by promises of happiness, renewed at the period of every fresh crime, have found themselves plunged into an abyss of unexampled calamities; and neighbouring nations, instead of deriving a new security for the maintenance of general tranquillity from the establishment of a wise and moderate government, have been exposed to the repeated attacks of a ferocious anarchy, the natural and necessary enemy of all public order. They have had to encounter acts of aggression without pretext, open violations of all treaties, unprovoked declarations of war: in a word whatever corruption, intrigue, or violence could effect, for the purpose so openly avowed of subverting all the institutions of society, and of extending over all the nations of Europe, that confusion which has produced the misery of France.

This state of things cannot exist in France without involving all the surrounding powers in one common danger, without giving them the right, without imposing it upon them as a duty, to stop the progress of an evil which exists only by the successive violation of all law and all property, and which attacks the fundamental principles by which mankind is united in the bonds of civil society.—His majesty by no means disputes the right of France to reform its laws. It never would have been his wish to employ the influence of external force with respect to the particular forms of government to be established to an independent country. Neither has he now that wish, except in so far as such interference is become essential to the

security and repose of other powers. Under these circumstances, he demands from France, and he demands, with justice, the termination of a system of anarchy, which has no force but for the purpose of mischief, unable to discharge the primary duty of all government, to repress the disorders, or to punish the crimes which are daily increasing in the interior of the country, but disposing arbitrarily of the property and blood of the inhabitants of France, in order to disturb the tranquillity of other nations, and to render all Europe the theatre of the same crimes and of the same misfortunes. The king demands that some legitimate and stable government should be established, founded on the acknowledged principles of universal justice, and capable of maintaining with other powers the accustomed relations of union and of peace. His majesty wishes ardently to be enabled to treat for the re-establishment of general tranquillity with such a government, exercising a legal and permanent authority, animated with the wish for general tranquillity, and possessing power to enforce the observance of its engagements. The king would propose none other than equitable and moderate conditions, not such as the expences, the risques, and the sacrifices of the war might justify, but such as his majesty thinks himself under the indispensable necessity of requiring with a view to these considerations, and still more to that of his own security, and of the future tranquillity of Europe. His majesty desires nothing more sincerely than thus to terminate a war which he in vain endeavoured to avoid, and all the calamities of which, as now experienced by France, are to be attributed only to the ambition, the perfidy, and the violence of those, whose crimes have involved their own country in misery, and disgraced all civilized nations.

As his majesty has hitherto been compelled to carry on war against the people of France collectively, to treat as enemies all those who suffer their property and blood to be lavished in support of an unjust aggression, his majesty would see with infinite satisfaction the opportunity of making exceptions in favour of the well-disposed inhabitants of other parts of France, as he has already done with respect to those of Toulon. The King promises, on his part, the suspension of hostilities, friendship and (as far as the the course of events will allow, of which the will of man cannot dispose) security and protection to all those who, by declaring for a Monarchical Government, shall shake off the yoke of a sanguinary anarchy, of that anarchy which has broken all the most sacred bonds of society, dissolved all the relations of civil life, violated every right, confounded every duty, which uses the name of liberty to exercise the most cruel tyranny, to annihilate all property, to seize on all possessions, which founds its power on the pretended consent of the people, and itself carries fire and sword through extensive provinces, for having demanded their laws, their religion, and their lawful Sovereign.

It is then in order to deliver themselves from this unheard of oppression, to put an end to a system of unparalleled crimes, and to restore at length tranquillity to France, and security to all Europe; that his Majesty invites the co-operation of the people of France. It is for these objects that he calls upon them to join the standard of an hereditary Monarchy, not for the purpose of deciding, in this moment of disorder, calamity, and public danger, on all the modifications of which this form of government may hereafter be susceptible, but in order to unite themselves once more under the empire of law, of morality, and of religion; and to secure at length to their own country, external peace, domestic tranquillity, a real and genuine liberty, a wise, moderate, and beneficent government, and the uninterrupted enjoyment of all the advantages which can contribute to the happiness and prosperity of a great and powerful nation.

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